

Authority

- What makes the author(s) an authority on this subject?
- Does the author cite his/her experience/credentials?
- Is there any way to contact the author?
- In what publication/Web site does the article appear? Who is responsible for the information presented?
- Is the publication peer-reviewed or scholarly?
- Is material taken from other sources fully credited?

Scope, Coverage & Relevance

- Who is the intended audience? (general, specialized readership, scholars, etc.)
- Are the content and level appropriate for your assignment?
- What time period is covered?
- What geographical area is covered?
- Is this information a subset of a more comprehensive source? If so, who abridged it and why?

Bias & Accuracy

- How is the information presented? (fact, opinion, propaganda, etc.)
- If presented as fact, is it accurate? Can you find other sources that corroborate the information?
- Is there a bias? (cultural, political, religious, etc.) If so, is the bias clearly stated?

Currency / Timeliness

- How recent is the information? Is it important that the information is up-to-date?
- Is some of the information obviously out-of-date? Too old for your needs?

Quality

- Did it use accepted methodologies for its field, insofar as you know?
- Is the information clearly written?
- Is the information presented in an organized manner? Do the links work?
- Does the author agree or disagree with the majority of other scholars in the discipline?

Commercialism

- Is the presenter selling something - a product, a philosophy, himself/herself?
- Does the article/Web site have a corporate sponsor?

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