

EVALUATING INFORMATION USING FIVE CRITERIA

NAME:

DATE:

Article/book title:

Periodical title:

How/where you found it:

1. CURRENCY:

Is the information the most recent on the topic?

What is the copyright date of the publication?

Is this the most recent edition (applies to book)?

Has your instructor given you a time range within which to stay (please list)?

Comment:

2. AUTHORITY:

Who is the author?

What are the author's credentials/reputation?

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What other works on the subject has the author written?

.....

Is the author an expert or researcher in the field?

Has the author been cited by your instructor or in any other publications you have read (please list)?

.....

Does the author indicate the research methods used to obtain data?

Scholarly journals are usually peer reviewed. Is the article from a peer-reviewed journal?

.....

Commercial publishers often have an established reputation. Who published the journal?

.....

Comment:

3. AUDIENCE:

Who is the intended audience -- Researchers or experts?

Members of a trade or professionals?

The general public?

Comment:

4. ACCURACY:

Is the information accurate?

Can the information be verified or supported by other sources?

Are sources of factual information cited?

Does a fairly extensive body of information on the topic exist?

Does this information reflect the most recent or current thought on the topic?

Comment:

5. POINT OF VIEW:

Does the source have a particular bias?

Does it promote the ideas of a particular group -- religious, political, etc.?

Is it factual information or interpretations of the facts?

Are several points of view presented?

Comment: