

Comprehensive evaluation of a site

- In the space provided, to write down the site name and URL (web address)
- Use each category's questions, to do a comprehensive site evaluation

Site Name and URL (web address)

Accuracy

1. Does the author cite sources used to develop the site?
 2. Is it possible to verify the legitimacy of these sources?
 3. Does the background of the author point to knowledge of the subject covered?
 4. If the site is research-based, does the author clearly identify the method of research and the data gathered?
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Authority

1. Do you recognize the author's name?
 2. If you don't recognize the name, what type of information is given about the author?
Position? Organizational affiliation?
E-mail address? Biographical information?
 3. Was the site referenced in a document that you trust?
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Objectivity

1. Determine what is the aim of the author or organization publishing the site.
 2. What is the purpose of the web site:
Is it advertisement for a product or service?
Is it for political purposes?
Is it trying to sway public opinion on a social issue?
 3. Do you trust the author or organization providing the information?
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Currency

1. Is a date clearly displayed?
 2. Can you determine what the date refers to?
When the page was first written?
When the page was first posted on the Internet?
When the page was last revised or updated?
The copyright date?
 3. Are the resources used by the author current?
 4. Does the page content demand routine or continual updating or revision?
 5. Do the links on the page point to the correct Internet site addresses?
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Coverage

1. Are the topics covered on the site explored in depth?
 2. Are the links on the site comprehensive or used as examples?
 3. On the site, are the links relevant and appropriate?
 4. How valuable is the information provided?
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Resources

Alexander, Janet E. and Marsha A. Tate. "Evaluating Web Pages: Links to examples of various concepts." *Evaluating Web Resources*. Oct. 2, 1998. Wolfgram Memorial Library, Widener University. Nov. 1998 <<http://www2.widener.edu/Wolfgram-Memorial-Library/webevaluation/examples.htm>>

Alexander, Janet E. and Marsha A. Tate. "Web Resource Evaluation Techniques." *Evaluating Web Resources*. Nov. 6, 1998. Wolfgram Memorial Library, Widener University. Nov. 1998 <<http://www2.widener.edu/Wolfgram-Memorial-Library/webeval/eval1198/index.htm>>

Grassian, Esther. "Thinking Critically about World Wide Web Resources." *Help Guides*. Oct. 1, 1998. UCLA College Library. Nov. 1998 <<http://www.library.ucla.edu/libraries/college/help/critical/index.htm>>

Jacobson, Trudi and Laura Cohen. "Evaluating Internet Resources." *Internet Tutorials*. Apr. 1996. University Libraries, University at Albany, SUNY. Nov. 1998 <<http://library.albany.edu/internet/evaluate.html>>

Kirk, Elizabeth E. "Evaluating Information found on the Internet." *Research Help*. 1996. The Sheridan Libraries, John Hopkins University. Nov. 1998 <<http://www.library.jhu.edu/researchhelp/general/evaluating/index.html>>

Walker, Janice R. "MLA-Style Citations of Electronic Sources." *The Columbia Guide to Online Style*. 1998. Columbia University Press. Nov. 1998 <http://www.columbia.edu/cu/cup/cgos/idx_basic.html>