

Website Evaluation Guide

Title of website: _____

Website URL: _____

Content

- Is the purpose(inform,persuade,sell,entertain)of the site indicated on the home page? YES/NO
- If not, can you guess the purpose of the web page?Circle it above. YES/NO
- Could that purpose cause the web author to be biased? YES/NO
- Do you feel as though the document is trying to convince you of something? YES/NO
- Look at the advertising on the page. Could the companies paying for the ads influence the content or cause bias? YES/NO
- Is the information useful for your purpose? YES/NO
- Would it have been easier to get the information somewhere else? YES/NO
- Would information somewhere else have been different? YES/NO
- If so, why?
- Did the information lead you to other sources that were useful? YES/NO
- When was the document created?
- Is the information current? YES/NO
- Does up-to-date information matter for your purpose?YES/NO
- Does the information appear biased? YES/NO
- Does the author express his or her opinion as a fact? YES/NO
- Does the author support his ideas with references to show that he has done research? YES/NO
- Does the information contradict something you found somewhere else? YES/NO
- Can readers edit the content on the page? YES/NO
- Does it matter if the page content is editable by users (readers)? YES/NO

Briefly describe the contents on the site:

Authority

- Is there a person or organization responsible for the web page? YES/NO
- Write the name of the person or organization.
- Is there an e-mail address to contact the author or authors? YES/NO
- What authority or credentials does the person or organization have? Describe.

- Is the web page linked to a home page for an organization, commercial enterprise,or individual? (Circle one)
- Has the site been reviewed by an online reviewing agency or won awards? YES/NO
- Does the domain (i.e. edu, com, gov) of the page influence your evaluation of the site? YES/NO
- Are you positive that the information is true?YES/NO
- What can you do to prove that it is true?
- Are you positive that the information is useful for your purpose? YES/NO
- If not, what can you do next?
- Are you using this web page for your paper or project? YES/NO