

The TRAAP Test Worksheet

Use the following list to help you evaluate sources. Answer the questions as appropriate, and then rank each of the 5 parts from 1 to 10 (1 = unreliable, 10 = excellent). Add up the scores to give you an idea of whether you should use the resource (and whether your professor would want you to!).

Timeliness: *the timeliness of the information*.....

- When was the information published or posted? _____
- Has the information been revised or updated? _____
- Is the information current or out-of date for your topic? _____
- Are the links to other websites working? _____

Relevance: *the importance of the information for your needs*.....

- Does the information relate to your topic or answer your question? _____
- Is the information at an appropriate reading level? _____
- Have you looked at a variety of sources before choosing this one? _____
- Would you be comfortable using this source for a research paper? _____

Authority: *the source of the information*.....

- Who is the author/publisher/source/sponsor? _____
 - Is the author qualified to write on the topic? _____
 - Is there contact information, such as a publisher or e-mail address? _____
 - Does the URL reveal anything about the author or source? _____
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Accuracy: *the reliability, truthfulness, and correctness of the content*.....

- Is the information supported by evidence? _____
- Can you verify any of the information in another source? _____
- Can you find sources cited or linked to the original source? _____

Purpose: *the reason the information exists*.....

- What is the purpose of the information? _____
- Do the authors/sponsors make their intentions or purpose clear? _____
- Is the information fact? opinion? persuasion? _____
- Are there any biases? Do they only support one point of view? _____

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| 45 - 50 Excellent 40 - 44 Good 35 - 39 Average 30 - 34 Borderline Acceptable Below 30 - Unacceptable |
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TOTAL: