Website Evaluation Checklist

Title of the Website: _____

 URL: _____

Authority

Tips: To help determine the author's expertise, look at the links: "About us," "FAQ," "Background," or "Biography."

Is it clear who the Author of the website is?	Y	N
Has the author provided contact information (name, email, phone number or address)?	Y	N
If there is no personal author, is a publisher or institution provided along with contact information?	Y	N
Does the individual or organization list all of their qualifications, or credentials?	Y	N

Purpose

Tips: Looking at the URL of the site will help you determine its purpose. Judge whether the website is geared to a scholarly or non-professional audience.

Does the website have an .edu, .org, or .gov ending in its URL?	Y	N
Does the website avoid trying to persuade or sell something?	Y	N
Is the information on the site relevant to your needs?	Y	N

Objectivity

Tips: Look for objective sites that present information with a minimum of bias and without the intention to persuade. Determine the aim of the author or organization publishing the site.

Does the website avoid advertising that may be a conflict of interest with the content?	Y	N
If an issue is covered, are both sides presented?	Y	N
Do you trust the author or organization that has created the website?	Y	N

Accuracy

Tips: Since anyone can publish a website you need to be able to identify the author and access contact information. Make sure that the information in the website is accurate and verifiable.

Based on the reading you have already done on the subject, does the information on the site seem accurate?	Y	N
Is factual information referenced in footnotes or a bibliography?	Y	N
Are there few grammar and spelling mistakes?	Y	N
If there are links to other pages, are they to reliable sources?	Y	N

Currency

Tips: Keep in mind that factual or statistical information that is not dated is no better than anonymous information. Check the top or bottom of a web page to look for the creation date or revision date.

Is the date the site was created provided?	Y	N
Is there a date that shows when the site has last been updated?	Y	N
Does the site contain "broken" links?	Y	N

Evaluation Summary:

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