



Evaluate Your Sources

Author of Source: _____

Title of Source: _____

	0	1	2	3
Author's Credibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The author is a student. The author is unnamed, and there are no credentials given. <input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The author is named, no credentials are given, and the author is clearly not an expert. <input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The author is named, no credentials are given, but the author does seem to have some level of knowledge or expertise. <input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The author is named, and the credentials show that this person is an expert in the subject. The source is a primary document. <input type="checkbox"/>
Publisher's Credibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The source is published by an individual. <input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The source is published by an obscure business, publisher, or organization. <input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The source is published by a recognizable business, publisher, professional association, museum, or university. <input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The source is published by a reputable publisher, professional association, museum, university, or government agency. <input type="checkbox"/>
Source's Sources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The source does not list any sources. <input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The source includes a general statement about sources, but does not include a bibliography. <input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The source includes a basic bibliography. <input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The source includes an extensive bibliography. The source is a primary document. <input type="checkbox"/>
Timeliness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is no indication of when the source was created or revised, and the source is not a primary document. <input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The source was created or updated over three years ago and is not a primary document. <input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The source was created or updated within the last three years and is not a primary document. <input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The source was created or updated within the last six months. The subject is not time sensitive. The source is a primary document. <input type="checkbox"/>
Purpose	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is no clear purpose. The purpose is personal. The purpose is entertainment. <input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The purpose is to sell something, give a point of view, or persuade. There may be some factual information, but the focus of the source is to promote something. <input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The purpose is to offer factual information. Some opinion may be included. <input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The purpose is to support or advance scholarly research with factual information. The source is a primary document. <input type="checkbox"/>

Total Score: _____

0-5 points: This is a highly questionable source and should not be used in an academic paper.

6-9 points: This source may be used for personal information, but should not be used in an academic paper.

10-12 points: This is a good source for an academic paper.

13-15 points: This is an excellent source for an academic paper.