

1. Authority/Reliability Score: _____ /5 (Add positive points and subtract negative ones)

Who are the authors of this site? Is it a person a company or organization? Check the URL. Sometimes educational sites will carry the .edu extension. Do they have enough knowledge to be an authority or expert on the topic? Are they biased in any way? Are they trying to sell something? Many sites have an About Us section or contact information section. Try using Alexa, a web tracking site to find out who or what organization is publishing a website if that information is not available on the site <http://www.alexacom/>. Just type in the site's URL into Alexa and go to the Contact Info tab.

Give one point for each statement that applies

- +Person and/or organization who is publishing the information is easily identified _____
- +Person and/or organization's purpose in publishing the information is identified and appropriate for research _____
- +Article contributors and authors are identified _____
- +Person and/or organization is qualified to report on this topic _____
- +Person and/or organization has identified sources for information presented _____

Give a negative point for each statement that applies

- Person and/or organization is biased _____

2. Content/Currency Score: _____ /5 (Add positive points and subtract negative ones)

What kind of information is on the site? Is it factual and accurate? Is it a straight information site or is its intention humorous? Is it complete enough for high school research? Does the information fit your topic? When was the site last updated? How often is it updated?

Give a positive point for each statement that applies.

- +Information covers the subject accurately and is appropriate for high school research _____
- +Information is current and was updated recently (don't give a point if you can't find a date) _____
- +Information is well written _____
- +Site is easy to navigate _____
- +Site links to other valuable websites _____

Give a negative point if these statements apply

- There is a lot of advertising _____
- Purpose of site is mostly commercial _____
- Many links do not work _____