**C.R.A.P. Test (C**urrency**, R**eliability**, A**uthority**, P**urpose**)** (Last revised 9/2016)

A checklist for evaluating websites

|  |
| --- |
| ***Instructions:***  1) Evaluate your website using the checklist below.  2) Review your completed checklist to determine the credibility of your website. |

1. What is your topic? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

2. What is the name of your website? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. Copy and paste the web address, or URL, of the website being evaluated in the space below:

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Criteria** | Yes | No | NA |
| **Currency - Is the information recent enough for your topic?** |  |  |  |
| Can you find a date when the site/page(s) were written/created/updated/last modified? |  |  |  |
| Based on your topic, is the information current enough? |  |  |  |
| **Reliability/Relevance** |  |  |  |
| Based on your other research, or what your already know, is the information accurate? |  |  |  |
| Are their links or references showing where the author got their information? |  |  |  |
| If there are links, do they work? |  |  |  |
| **Authority** |  |  |  |
| Is the author’s name listed (including first and last name)? |  |  |  |
| If there is an author, is there a way to contact them? |  |  |  |
| Does the author have the credentials and education to be knowledgeable or an expert?  ***Hint:*** *Google the authors’ name(s)* |  |  |  |
| Is there a publisher or sponsor of the site? |  |  |  |
| If there is a publisher or sponsor, are they reputable?  ***Hint:*** *Google the name of the publisher or sponsor* |  |  |  |
| Do others link to the site?  ***Hint:*** Google a link check to see who, if anyone, is linking to the site (ex. link:<http://www.mypearlcity.com/>) |  |  |  |
| **Purpose/Point of View** |  |  |  |
| Look over the contents. Can you tell why the information was written (ex. to persuade, to sell you something, etc)? |  |  |  |
| Based on the domain (.edu, .org, .gov, etc), can you tell if the site is reliable or not? |  |  |  |
| Look for point of view. Can you tell if the site is fair and objective? Or, is the information biased? Is it an advocacy site? Is the page affiliated with an organization that has a particular political or social agenda? |  |  |  |

3) Is this website good enough to use for your project (*circle one*)

Yes, very credible Yes, somewhat credible No, not credible Not enough information available

because...