

WEB SITE EVALUATION (CRAAP) WORKSHEET

PURPOSE:

Purposes of Web Resources

- Advocacy/Soap box (organization)
 - Example: American Red Cross
- Commercial/Marketing
 - Example: Amazon
- Informational
- News
- Personal (~)
- Entertainment

What the URL Can Tell You

- .com = commercial
- .org = organization
- .gov = government
- .edu = education
- .mil = military
- .net = network
- ~ = personal page

1. Indicate which of the following websites are examples of:

- Advocacy or soap box site
- Personal page
- Commercial site
- Reference site

To access the worksheet online:
- Departments
- Library
- Other LMC Links
- Teacher Resources
- Web Site Evaluation Worksheet

NOTE: Some sites may fit more than one category.

a) <http://www.amazon.com> _____

b) <http://www.usgs.gov/> _____

c) [http://www.nku.edu/~gartigw/columns_files/0701%202007%20January%20-%20Holocaust%20Deniers%20\(cropped\).pdf](http://www.nku.edu/~gartigw/columns_files/0701%202007%20January%20-%20Holocaust%20Deniers%20(cropped).pdf)

d) <http://www.americanrivers.org> _____

2. What suffix/symbol indicates a site is a:

a) personal page? _____

b) commercial site? _____

c) reference site? _____

d) site sponsored by a non-profit organization? _____

3. Visit the Princeton Review web site: <http://www.review.com/>. What is the purpose of the site?

a) To inform

b) To sell products and services

c) Both of these answers

4. Advocacy pages can be useful for:

a) Finding reliable data

b) Understanding a point of view

c) Both of these answers

5. Visit the following web site: <http://zapatopi.net/afdb/>

a) What do you think the motive of this site is?

b) Do you think this is a legitimate or hoax site?
Why? _____

Authority (Author/Publisher)/Currency

Authority

- Who is the author or publisher?
- What are the author's qualifications for writing on the subject?
- How reputable is the publisher or company?
- Is an address or e-mail given?
- If included, a date may have various meanings:
 - Date first created
 - Date placed on Web
 - Date last revised

Currency of Web Resources

- Is the content of the site up-to-date?
- Is the publication date clearly indicated?
- Dates not always included on Web pages

6. Look up the "Guide to Australia" <http://www.csu.edu.au/australia>

a) Who has copyrighted this site? _____

b) What is the copyright date of this site? _____

7. For the most authoritative information on federal income tax, go to:

a) Jim's Tax Page

b) Internal Revenue Service Website

8. Explain your choice for # 7.

9. Visit Punishment and the Death Penalty web site:

<http://ethics.sandiego.edu/Applied/DeathPenalty/index.asp>

a) From your evaluation of **authority**, do you think the site is reliable? **Why?**

b) From your evaluation of **currency**, do you think the site is reliable? **Why?**

c) What **credentials** does the editor of the site have?

d) Do the links on this site lead to other reputable sites? _____

e) Does the author cite his or her sources? _____

f) Are there spelling errors or incorrect use of grammar? _____

Accuracy/Objectivity

- Is there a strong bias?
- To what extent is the information trying to persuade the audience?
- Some people and groups use the Web to express their opinions and persuade other people (vested interest)
- The purpose of the site is often not clearly stated

10. Indicate which of the following websites are examples of information with:

- Vested interest
 - Supported arguments (sources of information are documented)
 - Unsubstantiated (no documentation is provided)
 - Balanced presentation (if the topic is controversial)
- (Hint: each one is used once)

a) <http://galen.library.ucsf.edu/tobacco/cigpapers/demo/chapter1/1.html> _____

b) <http://www.lungusa.org/> _____

c) <http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/pages/frontline/shakespeare/> _____

d) <http://city-mankato.us/> _____

11. Compare these Web sites. Which offers more balanced coverage of this topic? Circle the correct answer.

a) Angel on Death Row: <http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/pages/frontline/angel/procon/>

b) Death Penalty News & Updates: <http://people.smu.edu/rhalperi/>

12. Compare these Web sites. Circle the site which provides more credible coverage of the topic.

a) FinAid: <http://www.finaid.org/>

b) Student Guide: http://studentaid.ed.gov/students/publications/student_guide/index.html

13. Which site is most likely to provide balanced information on eating a balanced diet? (This is a question to think about and not actually visit these web sites.)

- a) Pork Producers Nutrition Page
- b) Tufts University Nutrition Web Page
- c) The Eat What You Want Page

Explain your choice

#13. _____

14. Visit the following web page to answer the last questions.

<http://www.nineplanets.org>

- a) Do most of the links on the page work? _____
- b) Is the page completed or under construction? _____
- c) Is it an appropriate level for high school students? _____
- d) Is the site well organized or is it confusing when you first see it? _____
- e) Can you read the text against the background? _____

15. Use your knowledge of evaluating web sites to determine whether the following are legitimate or hoax web sites.

- | | | |
|--|------------|------|
| a) http://www.stephenswork.com/funkyshoes/index.html | Legitimate | Hoax |
| b) http://zapatopi.net/treeoctopus/ | Legitimate | Hoax |
| c) http://www.eurekascience.com/ICanDoThat/cloning.htm | Legitimate | Hoax |
| d) http://www.malepregnancy.com/ | Legitimate | Hoax |
| e) http://www.ornl.gov/sci/techresources/Human_Genome/elsi/cloning.shtml | Legitimate | Hoax |
| f) http://www.thedogisland.com/index.html | Legitimate | Hoax |