

Your Name: _____

Teacher's Name: _____

Web Page Evaluation Checklist

When using information from the Internet, *you* need to be the editor by thinking critically about the information you find. Consider these questions to determine if a Web site is appropriate for your research needs.

URL: http://		
SITE NAME:		
WHO: Answer these questions to determine if the information is coming from a knowledgeable, trustworthy source.	Yes	No
• Is the author clearly identified?		
• Is the author from an organization related to the topic?		
• Does the author's background indicate experience or expertise in the subject area?		
• Is there contact information, including postal address, phone, and e-mail?		
• Does the publisher of the site have a good reputation?		
WHAT: Answer these questions to determine the quality and usefulness of the information.		
• Is the information accurate?		
• Is the information consistent with other facts you know or have found on the subject?		
• Are real, high-quality sources cited?		
• Is methodology described?		
• Are the grammar and spelling correct?		
• Are the language and tone appropriate for the subject?		
• Do external links connect to appropriate, high-quality sites?		
• Is the subject covered broadly and/or deeply enough for your needs?		
• Is the information relevant to your research topic?		
WHERE: Answer these questions to determine if the source of information is appropriate for the topic.		
• Is it a personal page?		
• What is the domain type? ○ Is that domain type appropriate for the topic?		
• Where is the site hosted? ○ Is the host appropriate for the topic?		
WHEN: Answer these questions to determine the currency of the information.		
• Is every page dated?		
• When was the information gathered?	Date	
• What ranges of dates are covered?	Date	
• What ranges of dates are <i>not</i> covered?	Date	
• When was the page created or last updated?	Date	
• Are there signs that the site is updated regularly?		
• Is the information current enough for your research needs?		

WHY: Answer these questions to identify bias and determine the site's purpose.	Yes	No
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is the goal of the site clearly stated? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ What is the goal? 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is the audience of the site identified? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Who is the audience? 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Are biases clearly stated? 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is the information balanced? 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do external links represent other viewpoints? 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do references include balanced, objective sources or those from other viewpoints? 		
HOW: Answer these questions to determine whether the site is easy to use.		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is the design style appropriate for the topic? 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is the language readable and understandable? 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does the site load quickly? 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do links work correctly? 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do the graphics enhance the information? 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Are the colors pleasing to the eye? 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Are the fonts readable and used consistently? 		
SUMMARY: Write a statement explaining why you would or would not recommend this site. Include specific examples.		

