

Critically evaluate information found on the Web to determine if it is reliable.
Use this checklist of criteria to ask questions that assist in this evaluation.

CRITERIA

QUESTIONS TO ASK

COVERAGE

- Is the resource a primary or secondary source?
- Does it appropriately & adequately cover the topic for your purpose?
- Is the coverage too basic or too advanced for your audience?

OBJECTIVITY

- Does the resource project bias?
- Is the information factual?
- Is the language emotional or opinionated?

CURRENCY

- How old is the resource?
- How current is the information?
- When was the website last updated?
- Does importance of currency vary by topic?

ORIGIN

- Who is the author?
- Are author's credentials provided? Are they reliable credentials?
- Who is the publisher?
- Is it a reputable or vanity press?
- Is there a sponsoring body?

ACCURACY

- Are the facts accurate as demonstrated by references or a bibliography?
- Is there proper spelling, grammar and composition?

