

Applying the CRAAP Test to Evaluating Web Sites

When you search the Web, you're going to find a lot of information . . . but is it accurate and reliable? You will have to determine this for yourself, and the **CRAAP Test** can help. The **CRAAP Test** is a list of questions you can ask yourself in order to determine if the information on a web site is reliable. Please keep in mind that the following list of questions is not static nor is it complete. Different criteria will be more or less important depending on your situation or need. So, what are you waiting for? Is your web site credible and useful, or is it a bunch of . . . !

Website Title and URL: _____

Currency: *The timeliness of the web page.*

Date gathered _____

Date posted _____

Date revised _____

Links functional YES NO SOME MOST

Links up-to-date YES NO SOME MOST

Relevance/Coverage: *The uniqueness of the content and its importance for your needs.*

Depth and Breadth _____

Unique _____

Info available elsewhere _____

Intended audience _____

Authority: *The source of the web page.*

Author/creator/sponsor _____

Author's credentials listed _____

Contact information _____

Is the author affiliated with an organization _____

Website sponsors _____

Domain? .COM .EDU .GOV .ORG .NET

Accuracy: *The reliability, truthfulness, and correctness of the informational content.*

Original sources cited _____

Verify information in other sources _____

Reviewed or refereed _____

Bias _____

Spelling, grammar, or other typos NONE FEW SOME LOTS

Purpose: *The presence of bias or prejudice/The reason the web site exists.*

Biases clearly stated _____

Advertising content easily distinguishable _____

Editorials labeled _____

Purpose stated _____

Purpose to: INFORM TEACH ENTERTAIN ENLIGHTEN SELL PERSUADE

OVERALL would you feel comfortable using the reviewed website as a source of information for a research paper? Please provide specific support for your decision.:

CITE the reviewed website in proper bibliographic format: