

# Website Validity Checklist

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Use the following checklist, outlined in the power point presentation, to know if the websites you are researching are valid or not.

0-1=invalid    2-4=okay, but marginal    5=great source in this area

Website URL:

## ✓ The site is professional.

Where did you find this site? Who published it? (Check the copyright info)

Pts=

## ✓ Profession Check #2: Anyone can create a webpage. So check to see is the website a professional site.

Professional sites include: .gov/.org/.mil/.museum/.aero/.edu

How does your cite end?

Pts=

## ✓ Is it clear who has written the information? Check to see if the author of the website

is qualified. Credentials should prove the author's knowledge and experience on the subject of the website (Ph.D/ Dr., professor, professional, business owner, company owner, etc.).

Who is author of the particular article you are reading? Google a bit about him or her. Does he or she hold background experience/ education in what it is that he or she is discussing in the article? Explain.

Pts=

## ✓ Information must be credible and error free.

Scan the website and check information on website with other Google'd sources. If the information cannot be produced elsewhere it is most likely non-credible. Write down two other website sources where you find the same information and list, in brief form, what the info is.

Pts=

## ✓ Site is published and copyrighted.

Look on the webpage to see if website has a sponsor. The sponsor of the webpage must be reputable or put out by a known scholarly company (Time Magazine and Mc-Graw Hill). Write down the sponsor. (Look for a large organization name or logo)

Pts=

## ✓ Links to other sites verify the same information.

Are there links to other sites? This establishes credibility. View these other sites. Information between main site and sites provided through links should be the same. *Do they? Describe what these links are and explain if they work or not.*

Pts=

## ✓ References

Search the website for references and links that reflect the quality and amount of research put into work. List two references that you have found.

Pts=

## ✓ Relevant topics

Topics discussed on website should be relevant to what website is about. The aims of the website should be clear. Search the site to see if the site fulfills its aims about its topic. *Does the website stay on topic? Explain in 2 sentences below if it does or not.*

Pts=

## ✓ Information is unbiased.

Are there advertisements on the page? The website should show a minimum of bias. As you read the website ask yourself "Is the author trying to sway my opinion?" If so, the website may be a form of advertisement, not reliable information. *How does the website sway you to think one way? OR does your website offer both sides of an issue? In 2 sentences, describe.*

Pts=

## ✓ Website must be current.

When was the site produced? Check to see when the webpage was published or when it was last updated. The date or latest update should be current. *List the website date.*

Pts=

**Total Points=**

**Valid or not valid?**

**Valid Source: 40-50**

**Questionable source: 26-39**

**Invalid Source: 0-25**