Website Evaluation Checklist

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| **Title of the Overall Website:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**Title of the Specific Page:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |
|  **Authority**  |
| ***Tips:*** *To help determine the author’s expertise, look at the links: “About us,” “FAQ,” "Background," or "Biography.”*  |
| Is it clear who the author of the website is?  | ☐Y ☐N |
| Has the author provided contact information (like name, email, phone number, or address)?  | ☐Y ☐N  |
| If there is no personal author, is an editor, publisher, or institution provided along with contact information?  | ☐Y ☐N  |
| Does the individual or organization list its qualifications or credentials?  | ☐Y ☐N  |
|  **Accuracy**  |
| ***Tips:*** *Since anyone can publish a website, be sure that the information in the website is accurate and verifiable.*  |
| Based on the reading you have already done on the subject, does the information on the site seem accurate?  | ☐Y ☐N |
| Is factual information referenced in footnotes or a Works Cited?  | ☐Y ☐N |
| Are there few grammar and spelling mistakes?  | ☐Y ☐N |
| If there are links to other pages, are they to reliable sources?  | ☐Y ☐N |

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|  **Timeliness** |
| ***Tips:*** *Keep in mind that out-of-date information, even if it was factual, is potentially incorrect. Not knowing the date of publication can call into question its accuracy. Check the top or bottom of a web page to look for the creation date or revision date.*  |
| Is there a date that shows when the site was created or last updated?  | ☐Y ☐N |
| Does the site contain “broken” links?  | ☐Y ☐N |
|  **Objectivity**  |
| ***Tips:*** *Look for objective sites that present information with a minimum of bias and without the intention to persuade. Determine the aim of the author or organization publishing the site.*  |
| Does the website avoid advertising that may hold a conflict of interest with the content?  | ☐Y ☐N |
| If a debatable issue is covered, are both sides presented?  | ☐Y ☐N |
| Do you trust the author or organization that has created the website?  | ☐Y ☐N |
|  **Purpose**  |
| ***Tips:*** *Looking at the URL of the site can help you determine its purpose. Judge whether the website is geared to a scholarly or non-professional audience.*  |
| Does the website have an .edu or .gov ending in its URL?  | ☐Y ☐N |
| Does the website avoid trying to persuade or sell something?  | ☐Y ☐N |
| Is the information on the site relevant to your needs?  | ☐Y ☐N |