

Analyzing Websites

<p>Criterion (Trait being evaluated)</p>	<p>Excellent because . . .</p>	<p>Acceptable because . . .</p>	<p>Unacceptable because . . .</p>
<p>Authority</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are the author's qualifications to write about the topic? • Are the author's name and address on the site? • Check the domain name of the site (the part that ends with .com or .edu). Is the site affiliated with a reputable organization? 			
<p>Content</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does the author present original material, or has everything come from another source? • Does the author present material in depth? • Does the author try to be objective? If the author is biased, does he/she make the position clear? • Does the site seem to be misleading? • Can you doublecheck the information for accuracy? • Has the information been updated recently? • Are links to other sources of information available? 			
<p>Purpose</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is the site trying to sell you something? Does that affect the information being presented? • Is the site a personal homepage or a professional source of information? • If the site is about a controversial issue, does it present one side or both sides of the argument? 			
<p>Design</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How much advertising does the site contain? • Has the author paid attention to spelling and other basic writing skills? • Are the links current? • Is it reasonably easy to find your way around the site? 			