Source Evaluation Checklist

Name: _____

Source Title: _____   Source Type: _____

Credibility

Yes	No	
☐	☐	Is information about the author's qualifications, such as education or profession, available on the source or through additional searching?
☐	☐	Does the source provide a reference list or bibliography showing where the information contained within the source came from?
☐	☐	Can you find information about whether or not the publisher is reputable?

Relevance and Content

Yes	No	
☐	☐	Is the subject matter of the source related to your topic?
☐	☐	Are you able to distinguish between fact and opinion in the source?

Intended Audience

Yes	No	
☐	☐	Does this source work well for your audience? For example, if you are writing for a formal, academic audience, is the source a scholarly publication from a journal or a reputable book? If you are writing for the general public, is the source more popular in nature?

Date

Yes	No	
☐	☐	Can you tell when this source was published or revised?
☐	☐	Based on the date, will the facts and opinions in this source provide you with current information?

Purpose

Yes	No	
☐	☐	Is the information in this source biased or limited to one point of view?
☐	☐	Overall, is this source suitable as a resource for your research purposes?

If you answered "no" to one or more of these questions, you should take a closer look at your source. Getting one "no" does not mean you should not use your source, but it does mean you should really think about the overall quality of your service.

*Checklist adapted from University of Massachusetts "Evaluating Sources Checklist"

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