

Source Evaluation Checklist—The CRAAP Test

When you search for information, you're going to find lots of it....but is it good information? You will have to determine that for yourself, and the CRAAP Test can help. The CRAAP Test is a list of questions to help you evaluate the information you find. Different criteria will be more or less important depending on your situation or need. All you need to do is answer YES or NO in each box. When you get to the end and need to decide whether a source is worthy or not, look back at your answers to help you make that determination.

	SOURCE #1	SOURCE #2	SOURCE #3	SOURCE #4	SOURCE #5	SOURCE #6
SOURCE TITLE						
SOURCE AUTHOR						
SOURCE TYPE (book, video, article, database, etc.)						
CURRENCY						
Based on the publication date, will the facts or opinions be timely for your purposes? (If outdated, consider changing sources.)						
If this is a Web resource, can you tell when it was published or last revised?						

RELEVANCE						
Does the information relate to your topic or research question?						
Is the intended audience appropriate for your research paper?						
AUTHORITY						
Are the author's qualifications—education, occupation, position, etc.—listed?						
Does the publication include a bibliography showing the author has researched the topic?						
If the author is a corporate/commercial entity, organization, educational institution, publication, or government body, does it have a reputation for being knowledgeable about the subject? (Hint: Look at the URL: .gov, .org, etc.)						
ACCURACY						
Is the information in this source supported by evidence?						
Has the information been reviewed by others?						
Is the piece free from grammatical/mechanical errors that might make you suspicious?						

PURPOSE						
Would you say the information provided is biased or limited to one point of view?						
Is the purpose to persuade? If so, does the author leave out important facts or opposing viewpoints?						
Does the resource appear to be written for an academic audience or one knowledgeable about the subject area?						
CONCLUSIONS						
Based on the information you have collected, do you have any reservations about using this resource?						
Overall, this publication is suitable for use as a resource for my purposes.						