**Web Site Evaluation Tool**

Use the checklist below to examine a web page for:

* Design and presentation of the Web site
* Authority and authorship of the information
* Accuracy of the information
* Date of information
* Level of accessibility to the Web site and related links

What is the URL of the site?\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

What is the name of the site?\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Design and presentation of the web site**Examine the page. Answer the questions below by putting an X in the yes or no column. | Yes | No |
| 1. Does the site load quickly enough for you?
 |  |  |
| 1. Is the site clear and easy to read?
 |  |  |
| 1. Is it easy to find what you are looking for on the page(s)?
 |  |  |
| 1. Can you tell the purpose of the web site? (Is it to inform, sell a product, teach, etc?)
 |  |  |
| 1. Does the site appear to be biased, or someone’s opinion?
 |  |  |
| 1. Does the site use factual language, and is it free of grammatical and spelling errors?
 |  |  |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Authority and authorship**Answer the questions below by putting an X in the yes or no column. | Yes | No |
| 1. Does the domain name/URL reveal anything about the source of the information?
 |  |  |
| 1. Is there an AboutUs link to information about the sponsoring organization?
 |  |  |
| 1. Is the source a creditable organization? (Search for additional information about the sponsoring organization)
 |  |  |
| 1. Is there an author name given?
 |  |  |
| 1. Is the author an expert in the subject matter? (Search for additional information about the author)
 |  |  |
| 1. Is there an email address for the webmaster so you can contact someone about the site?
 |  |  |

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Accuracy of the information**Answer the questions below by putting an X in the yes or no column. | Yes | No |
| 1. Can you verify the information in independent sources?
 |  |  |
| 1. Has the information been subject to review by editorial experts?
 |  |  |
| 1. Does the information appear to be valid and well-researched, or is it unsupported by evidence?
 |  |  |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Date of the information**Answer the questions below by putting an X in the yes or no column. | Yes | No |
| 1. Can you tell when the site was last updated?
 |  |  |
| 1. Is the last update sufficient for your research?
 |  |  |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Level of accessibility and links**Answer the questions below by putting an X in the yes or no column. | Yes | No |
| 1. Are the links to other sources useful to the purpose of the site?
 |  |  |
| 1. Are the links current and up-to-date?
 |  |  |
| 1. Are the links clearly described or annotated?
 |  |  |
| 1. Conduct a link: command in Google to see what sites link to this page. Can you tell if other experts think this is a good site?
 |  |  |

Based on your answers to the questions above, is the web site useful for your research? Explain why or why not in the space below. Use examples of what you discovered about the web site to back up your answer.

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