The CRAAP Test Worksheet

Use the following list to help you evaluate sources. Answer the questions as appropriate, and then rank each of the 5 parts from 1 to 10 (1 = unreliable, 10 = excellent). Add up the scores to give you an idea of whether you should use the resource (and whether your professor would want you to!).

**Currency: the timeliness of the information**

- When was the information published or posted? 
- Has the information been revised or updated? 
- Is the information current or out-of-date for your topic? 
- Are the links functional? 

**Relevance: the importance of the information for your needs**

- Does the information relate to your topic or answer your question? 
- Who is the intended audience? 
- Is the information at an appropriate level? 
- Have you looked at a variety of sources before choosing this one? 
- Would you be comfortable using this source for a research paper? 

**Authority: the source of the information**

- Who is the author/publisher/source/sponsor? 
- Are the author's credentials or organizational affiliations given? 
- What are the author's credentials or organizational affiliations given? 
- What are the author's qualifications to write on the topic? 
- Is there contact information, such as a publisher or e-mail address? 
- Does the URL reveal anything about the author or source? 

**Accuracy: the reliability, truthfulness, and correctness of the content**

- Where does the information come from? 
- Is the information supported by evidence? 
- Has the information been reviewed or refereed? 
- Can you verify any of the information in another source? 
- Does the language or tone seem biased and free of emotion? 
- Are there spelling, grammar, or other typographical errors? 

**Purpose: the reason the information exists**

- What is the purpose of the information? 
- Do the authors/sponsors make their intentions or purpose clear? 
- Is the information fact? opinion? propaganda? 
- Does the point of view appear objective and impartial? 
- Are there political, ideological, cultural, religious, institutional, or personal biases? 

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>45 - 50 Excellent</th>
<th>40 - 44 Good</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>35 - 39 Average</td>
<td>30 - 34 Borderline Acceptable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Below 30 - Unacceptable</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total:
Evaluation Criteria

Currency: The timeliness of the information.
- When was the information published or posted?
- Has the information been revised or updated?
- Does your topic require current information, or will older sources work as well?
- Are the links functional?

Relevance: The importance of the information for your needs.
- Does the information relate to your topic or answer your question?
- Who is the intended audience?
- Is the information at an appropriate level (i.e. not too elementary or advanced for your needs)?
- Have you looked at a variety of sources before determining this is one you will use?
- Would you be comfortable citing this source in your research paper?

Authority: The source of the information.
- Who is the author/publisher/source/sponsor?
- What are the author's credentials or organizational affiliations?
- Is the author qualified to write on the topic?
- Is there contact information, such as a publisher or email address?
- Does the URL reveal anything about the author or source?

Accuracy: The reliability, truthfulness and correctness of the content.
- Where does the information come from?
Is the information supported by evidence?

Has the information been reviewed or refereed?

Can you verify any of the information in another source or from personal knowledge?

Does the language or tone seem unbiased and free of emotion?

Are there spelling, grammar or typographical errors?

**Purpose:** The reason the information exists.

What is the purpose of the information? Is it to inform, teach, sell, entertain or persuade?

Do the authors/sponsors make their intentions or purpose clear?

Is the information fact, opinion or propaganda?

Does the point of view appear objective and impartial?

Are there political, ideological, cultural, religious, institutional or personal biases?