

Web Evaluation Worksheet

Rank: _____

[Jim Kapoun's "Five Criteria for Evaluating Web Pages" was used in the design of this assignment.]

Working in the groups to which you have been assigned, use this worksheet to evaluate the websites on the list of five websites provided. Since this assignment involves discussing the websites and applying the criteria for evaluating them, you should all participate. However, choose one person to write down the answers for your group. Evaluate the websites and then rank the websites 1 (best), 2, 3, 4, 5 (worst) accordingly. After you have evaluated and ranked all five websites, send one person from your group to the board to write down the best website to use as a research resource (Ranked #1) and the worst website to use as a research resource (Ranked #5). This should take you approximately thirty minutes. After you have finished this portion of the assignment, we will discuss whether or not the criteria made it easier for you to reach your decisions. We will also discuss, in reference to the web evaluation criteria, various aspects of the websites that you selected as the best and the worst.

Title of the Website: _____

URL: _____

1. Accuracy

A. What group or person is responsible for the website? _____

B. Can you contact that group or person? Yes No

C. What is the purpose of the website? Is the website intended to advocate, sell, slander, inform, etc.? How can you tell? _____

2. Authority

A. What is the domain name of the website? .com .edu .gov .org .net

B. Are an author's or the group members' credentials listed on the website? Give examples. _____

3. Objectivity

A. What opinions does the author or group express on this site? Are any opinions expressed? _____

B. Does the website have a bias? Refer to your answer for 1C to help you with this question? _____

C. Who is the intended audience for the website (i.e. student, professional, general, etc.)? What helped you decide who the intended audience is?

D. How detailed is the information on the website? Give an example.

E. Is the text (i.e. any statements, opinions, or statistics) on the website supported with references? Give an example. _____

4. Currency

A. When was the website last updated? _____

B. Is the information on the website out-of-date? If the information on the website is out-of-date, give an example. _____

C. Do the links appear to be working? And, are they related to the topic/s of the website?

5. Coverage

A. Can you obtain information on this website for free or is there a fee? _____

B. Does the website require any special software to view its contents? _____

C. Is the website clear and easy to navigate or is it difficult to use for some reason (i.e. congested with text or overwhelmed with graphics)?
