

Internet Source Credibility Scoring Tool

As you view a web site, answer the following questions, placing an ✕ or ✓ in the appropriate box. When finished, total the numbers next to the boxes you selected.

Can you identify the author of the information?	YES <input type="checkbox"/> 1	NO <input type="checkbox"/> 0
Is there additional biographical data available about the author?	YES <input type="checkbox"/> 1	NO <input type="checkbox"/> 0
Is a street address and phone number provided on the site?	YES <input type="checkbox"/> 1	NO <input type="checkbox"/> 0
Is any of the information on the site attributed to other sources?	YES <input type="checkbox"/> 1	NO <input type="checkbox"/> 0
Can you tell if the web site is commercial, non-profit, governmental, etc.?	YES <input type="checkbox"/> 1	NO <input type="checkbox"/> 0
Which is it? non-profit <input type="checkbox"/> 2 government <input type="checkbox"/> 2 commercial <input type="checkbox"/> 1 personal <input type="checkbox"/> 0 other <input type="checkbox"/> 0		
Does the site offer more than one viewpoint?	YES <input type="checkbox"/> 1	NO <input type="checkbox"/> 0
Are there links or a listing of further resources?	YES <input type="checkbox"/> 1	NO <input type="checkbox"/> 0
Is the information on the site copyrighted?	YES <input type="checkbox"/> 1	NO <input type="checkbox"/> 0
Is the URL problematic (does it raise any warning flags for you)?	YES <input type="checkbox"/> 0	NO <input type="checkbox"/> 1
Is the site scholarly or popular? scholarly <input type="checkbox"/> 1 popular <input type="checkbox"/> 0		
Poor/unreadable design	YES <input type="checkbox"/> 0	NO <input type="checkbox"/> 1
Overwhelming graphics	YES <input type="checkbox"/> 0	NO <input type="checkbox"/> 1
Difficult to navigate	YES <input type="checkbox"/> 0	NO <input type="checkbox"/> 1
Spelling or grammar errors	YES <input type="checkbox"/> 0	NO <input type="checkbox"/> 1
When is the last time the web site was updated? last month <input type="checkbox"/> 2 6 months ago <input type="checkbox"/> 1 longer than 6 months <input type="checkbox"/> 0 unknown <input type="checkbox"/> 0		
Is the article/information date stamped so you know when it was written?	YES <input type="checkbox"/> 1	NO <input type="checkbox"/> 0
Are there any dead links on the page you're using?	YES <input type="checkbox"/> 0	NO <input type="checkbox"/> 1

20 Most *likely* a credible source.

10-19 Probably contains some credible information, but verify!

1-9 You may spend an awful lot of time verifying information from this site.

0-8 Don't bother using the site other than for entertainment.