

Use this checklist to help you assess the credibility of a source. If a statement applies to your source check the box. If most of the boxes are checked when you get to the end, it is likely a credible source. Note: not all check boxes are relevant or equally relevant to every source.

| <u>C</u> urrency | |
|---|--|
| It has been published or posted recently. | |
| The information has been revised or updated. | |
| The information is current enough to answer my question. | |
| <u>R</u> elevance | |
| This source relates to my topic or question. | |
| The information is written at the appropriate level (e.g. not for elementary school children). | |
| I would be comfortable citing this in my research paper that is being graded. | |
| <u>A</u> uthority | |
| The author have credentials or appropriate organizational affiliations (e.g. researcher at U of T). | |
| The author qualified to write on the topic. | |
| The contact information for the author or publisher is provided. | |
| If it is a website, the URL ends in .edu or .gov. | |
| <u>A</u> ccuracy | |
| The information comes from a reliable source. | |
| The information is supported by evidence. | |
| The information has been reviewed or refereed (e.g. peer review). | |
| The information is verifiable (from another source or your own knowledge). | |
| There are no spelling, grammar or typographical errors. | |
| <u>P</u> urpose | |
| The information is fact not propaganda. | |
| The purpose of the information is clear and appropriate for my purposes (e.g. to teach, or inform). | |
| The point of view is objective and impartial. | |
| The writing is clear from biases (e.g. political or personal). | |