



Name: _____



Accessing Information

Resource	Validity (why?)	Y/N	Reliability (why)	Y/N

 Validity: Is the resource truthful?	 Reliability: Is the resource trustworthy and dependable?
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Is the information current up to one year?• Is the same information found in more than one resource?• Is there enough information about the topic?• Are the facts in the article cited or referenced?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Is the purpose of the resource stated clearly?• The resource does not appear to be an advertisement.• Is the resource a .gov, .edu. or .org• Is the author's name listed?• Is the author's background trustworthy and dependable?• Is the resource sponsored by an institution or organization?

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Reflection

What was the answer to your question?

What factors did you use to determine the validity of your sources? (What was most important and guided your decision to determine validity?)

What factors did you use to determine the reliability of your sources? (What was the most important and guided your decision to determine reliability?)

What form of media resources (internet, publications, music, advertisements, etc.) do you think were the most valid and reliable for your question? Support your answer.

Describe how would having this knowledge help you prevent, detect, and treat health problems.



Website Evaluation

Purpose:

The content of some websites may have been created to persuade a reader to buy something or convince them to believe a certain way. To determine validity, you need to determine the purpose of the source. Check the “About Us” page or the “Mission Statement:”. The purpose can be to entertain, sell, persuade, inform, or teach.

Validity: Is the information truthful?

1. Accuracy
 - A. Not all information published on websites is valid or truthful. To evaluate a source for truthfulness, you should look for the following:
 - Citations or a works listed
 - Evidence that backs up claims made by the authors
 - Spelling and grammatical errors
 - Information that matches other credible sources
2. Currency
 - A. For accurate research a website’s publication date is important. It is best to use content that is current and not outdated.
 - Published or updated recently
 - Is appropriate for my topic

Reliability: Is the information trustworthy and dependable?

1. Author
 - A. The author is the person or organization who wrote the information on the website. An author is credible if:
 - Has written several articles on the topic
 - Provides contact information
 - May have qualifications of being an expert ie. a Phd. or other degree
2. Authority: Publisher
 - A. The credibility of the publisher also contributes to the reliability of the website. Credible publishers will:
 - Accept responsibility
 - Are often well known
3. Relevance:
 - A. A source may be reliable, but it may not be relevant. To determine relevance you should:
 - Determine the website’s intended audience
 - Make sure the information relates to your topic
 - Make sure the information helps to answer your research question