

In-class exercise, Class 9

Evaluate the page that is assigned to you. You are encouraged to visit the home page and any other web site that will help you make your decision or to confirm/contradict any info on the page.

Circle ☺ if this page is appropriate for scholarly research.

Circle ☹ if this page has trustworthy info, but is not suitable for citing in a scholarly paper.

Circle ☹ if this page is not trustworthy.

Number: _____

First impression: ☺ ☹ ☹

Authority: (Go to “About us” if available.)

Does this page have an author or authors? Yes No List: _____

If yes, what credentials are listed for this author? _____

Is an institution or corporation responsible for the content? Yes No List: _____

If yes, do you know anything about this institution? _____

What methods of contact does the site provide? (Go to “Contact us” if available)

Email PO Box Street Address Phone Fax

Consider the author’s tone and writing style. Is this article designed for a college-level audience? Yes No

Bibliography:

Does the article contain a bibliography? Yes No

Does the article contain any supporting links to other sites? Yes No

Does the article have references without citations (e.g. “government studies suggest”)? Yes No

If yes to any of the above, do the references look legitimate? Yes No

Can you tell whether the other sites/articles support or refute the claims of the article? Yes No

Timeliness:

Is there a date attached to your article? Yes No

If yes, does the date include any qualifiers (e.g. “last updated”, “originally posted”)? _____

If no, are there any hints as to how old the content may be? _____

Do most of the links on the page work? Yes No N/A

Accuracy:

Do you notice any typos or grammatical errors? Yes No

Are there any statements you suspect are untrue? Yes No

Bias/Objectivity:

Can you detect whether this site is trying to sell a product? Yes No

If yes, what do they sell? _____

Are there advertisements on this site? Yes No

Does this site take a position on an issue? Yes No

Does this article explain more than one side of an issue? Yes No

Investigator:

Go to alltheweb.com and type in your domain.

Are any topics listed for this page? Yes No List: _____

Who owns this domain? _____

What contact information do you have? Email PO Box Street Address Phone Fax

How many external pages link to this site? _____

Visit a few of the pages that link to this site.

Are the links presented with any commentary? Yes-positive Yes-negative No

URL investigation:

What is the domain type? .com .edu. .gov .org Other: _____

Final decision: 😊 😐 😞