

CRAAP test for evaluating sources

Give each category a score between (including) 1 and 10 (1 = worst, 10 = best possible). This way you can give each source a score on a scale of 50 points to show its quality.

N.B. The usefulness of a source eventually depends on your purpose with the information in it! Maybe you want to know how many people used a certain operating system *10 years ago* (category: Currency), or perhaps you want to know the *opinion* of Apple's Tim Cook on IT in education (category: Purpose). Adjust your CRAAP score for these categories accordingly.

Currency (Actualiteit): the timeliness of the information

- When was the information published or posted? Any revisions or updates?
- Is the information current (enough) or out-of date for your topic?
- Are the links functional (web source)?

Relevance (Relevantie): the importance of the information for your needs

- Does the information relate to your topic or answer your question?
- Who is the intended audience?
- Is the information at an appropriate level (i.e. not too elementary or advanced for your needs)?
- Have you looked at a variety of sources before determining this is one you will use?

Authority (Autoriteit): the source of the information

- Who is the author/publisher/source/sponsor?
- What are the author's credentials or organizational affiliations given?
- What are the author's qualifications to write on this specific topic?
- Is there contact information, such as a publisher or e-mail address?
- Does the URL (of web source) reveal anything about the author or source?

Accuracy (Accuraatheid): the reliability, truthfulness, and correctness of the content

- Where does the information come from?
- Is the information supported by evidence?
- Has the information been reviewed or refereed?
- Can you verify any of the information in another source or from personal knowledge?
- Are there spelling, grammar, or other typographical errors?

Purpose (Doel): the reason the information exists

- What is the purpose of the information? to inform? teach? Or: sell? entertain? Persuade? Do the authors/sponsors make their intentions or purpose clear?
- Is the information fact? Or: opinion? propaganda?
- Does the point of view appear objective and impartial? Or are there political, ideological, cultural, religious, institutional, or personal biases?

Sources:

<http://libguides.library.ncat.edu/content.php?pid=53820&sid=394505>

http://www.csuchico.edu/lins/handouts/eval_websites.pdf