

# The CRAAP Test

The CRAAP Test\* is a list of questions to help you evaluate the information you find. Select a source appropriate to your research topic.

Use that source to answer the questions below. Then, tally up the number of “yes” responses and “no” responses to determine if it is an appropriate source to use.

**Provide an MLA/APA citation for your source here:**

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What type of source is it?     **Journal Article**     **Gov. Document**     **Newspaper**     **Book**     **Website**

<p><b>Currency</b></p> <p><i>the timeliness of the information</i></p>	When was the information published or posted?	
	Has the information been revised or updated?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Explain:
	Is it recent enough to be relevant to your thesis? Why or why not?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Explain:
	* Websites Only: Are all of the URLs functional?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Explain:

<p><b>Relevance</b></p> <p><i>the importance of the information for your needs</i></p>	Is the readership level appropriate neither too simple nor to sophisticated for your topic?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Explain:
	Who is the intended audience? (e.g. academics, entertainment)	
	Does the information relate to your topic or answer your question?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Explain:
	Would you be comfortable using this source for a research paper?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Explain:

<p><b>Authority</b></p> <p><i>the source of the information</i></p>	Who is the creator, author, editor, or publisher?	
	Are the author’s credentials or organizational affiliations given? (journal articles- peer-reviewed?; books – published by scholarly presses, popular presses, or self-presses?)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Explain:

<b>Authority</b>  <i>the source of the information</i>	Is the author qualification to write on this topic?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Explain:
	Is there contact information for the author or publisher? (e.g. address or email)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Explain:
	*Websites Only: Does the URL reveal anything about the author or source? (.com, .edu, .gov, .org, .net)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Explain:

<b>Accuracy</b>  <i>the reliability, truthfulness, and correctness of the content</i>	Is the information supported by evidence?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
	Has the information been reviewed?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Explain:
	Are there citations or a bibliography included?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
	Are there spelling, grammar, or other typographical errors?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
	Does the language or tone seem biased?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Explain:

<b>Purpose</b>  <i>the reason the information exists</i>	Does the author make his/her intentions or purpose for the information clear?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
	What is the purpose of the information: to inform, teach, sell, entertain, or persuade?	
	Does the point of view appear objective and impartial?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Explain:
	Are there any political, ideological, cultural, religious, or personal bias?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
	Is the information primarily facts, opinions, or propaganda?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Explain:

\*\*To download a copy of this handout visit: <http://www.ashleyawilson.com/theCRAAPtest/>