The CRAAP Test Worksheet

Use the following list to help you evaluate sources. Answer the questions as appropriate, and then rank each of the 5 parts from 1 to 10 (1 = unreliable, 10 = excellent). Add up the scores to give you an idea of whether you should use the resource (and whether your instructor would want you to!).

Currency: the timeliness of the information

- When was the information published or posted? ________________________________
- Has the information been revised or updated? ________________________________
- Is the information current or out-of-date for your topic? _______________________
- Are the links functional? ___________________________________________________

Relevance: 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? ______________________________________
- Have you looked at a variety of sources before choosing this one? __________________
- Would you be comfortable using this source for a research paper? __________________

Authority: the source of the information

- Who is the author/publisher/source/sponsor? _________________________________
- Are the author’s credentials or organizational affiliations given? _________________
- What are the author's credentials/organizational affiliations if given? ______________
- What are the author's qualifications to write on the topic? _______________________
- Is there contact information, such as a publisher or e-mail address? _______________
- Does the URL reveal anything about the author or source? _______________________

Accuracy: 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? _________________________
- Does the language or tone seem biased and free of emotion? _____________________
- Are there spelling, grammar, or other typographical errors? _______________________

Purpose: the reason the information exists

- What is the purpose of the information? _________________________________________
- Do the authors/sponsors make their intentions or purpose clear? ____________________
- Is the information fact? opinion? propaganda? _________________________________
- Does the point of view appear objective and impartial? __________________________
- Are there political, ideological, cultural, religious, institutional, or personal biases? __________________

Total: ____________________

45 - 50 Excellent | 40 - 44 Good
35 - 39 Average | 30 - 34 Borderline Acceptable
Below 30 - Unacceptable

Adapted from Juniata College for use at South Central College