**Title and source (author or site name):**

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| **Source Criteria** | **Explain:** |
| **Currency: Timeliness of the Resource*** Is the publication date recent, especially if the relevance of the source is important to the topic?
* Is a copyright date provided?
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| **Relevance: The importance of the information for your research interest/question*** Does this information source answer a question I have about my topic OR does it help develop a new question to pursue for my topic?
* To what extent does this topic expand/broaden my understanding of my topic OR help me find a new aspect of the topic to explore?
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| **Authority: Credibility and expertise of the person or group that authored the information*** Who is the author/publisher/source/sponsor of this information source?
* What makes this person or group qualified to publish this information OR what makes this person/group an expert on the topic?
* What are the author’s credentials and/or organizational affiliations?
* Is the author or group qualified to write on the topic?
* Is there contact information for the author, such as a publisher, email address, or Twitter handle?
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| **Accuracy: The Reliability, Truthfulness, Objectiveness, and Correctness of the Content*** Is the information supported by evidence/facts?
* Can you verify any of the information in another information source?
* Does the language and tone of the information source seem unbiased, objective, and free of emotion or personal opinions?
* Are there any political, ideological, cultural, religious, institutional, or personal biases?
* Are there spelling, grammar, or typographical errors?
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| **Purpose: The Reason The Information Exists*** Does the author make his/her intentions or purpose for the information clear?
* What is the purpose of the information: to inform, teach, sell, entertain, or persuade?
* Is the information primarily facts, opinions, or propaganda?
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**Remember that the website extension (.org, .edu, com, .gov, etc.) is NOT a guarantee of credibility!**