

Name _____

Date _____

“CARS” Checklist – Is my Internet Source Any Good?

Revisit your research source. Examine it quickly using this checklist: how good is it? Is this a good place to find information? Write NA if the information is not available.

Credibility – Accuracy – Reasonable - Support

TITLE of web site

Complete Web address

Credibility - Can I trust this source?

1. YES NO Is the creator's name listed?
2. YES NO Is his/her background, education, training and/or experience listed?
3. If the author is an organization, what kind is it - corporate, governmental, non-profit?
4. How does the source know the information?

Accuracy - Is this source correct?

1. YES NO Is the information factual, detailed, exact, complete?
2. What is the date of creation ? _____
3. YES NO Is it up-to-date?
4. YES NO Are important facts and other information deliberately left out?
5. Who is the audience for the source?

6. YES NO Was the purpose to inform or to persuade?
7. YES NO Is information presented carefully and thoughtfully?

8. YES NO Is there a very one-sided view that does not acknowledge opposing views or respond to them?

Reasonableness - Do I get a feeling a basic fairness?

1. YES NO Is this source fair?
2. YES NO Is the information really believable?
3. YES NO Does the information make sense?
4. YES NO Are there inconsistencies or contradictions?

Support - does the information hold up?

1. YES NO Does it say where the site creator got his or her information?
2. YES NO Is there a bibliography or other documentation?
3. YES NO Is grammar, punctuation, and usage correct?
4. YES NO Are there misspellings? (Misspellings may indicate sloppy scholarship or that English may not be native language)