

WHO?	WHAT?	WHEN?	WHERE?	WHY?	HOW?
Who is the author? (What makes this author reliable or unreliable?)	What type of document is it? (What makes this type of document reliable or not?)	When was the document published? (What makes this date reliable or not?)	Where was the document published? (What makes this place of publication reliable or not?)	Why was the document created? (What makes this purpose behind the publication reliable or not?)	How was it written/created? How did the author gather data to prepare the document? (What makes the way this publication was produced reliable or not?)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What authority does the author/organization have to present on this topic? • What are their credentials? Are they connected to the field they are writing about? • Are they affiliated with any specific organizations? Could this impact their reliability? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • fact or opinion • report • research study • news article • popular article • scholarly article • peer-reviewed article • statistical analysis • Does the type of document indicate HOW it was made and effect its reliability? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is it current? • Has the information or links been updated or revised? • When in the information cycle was this source published? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commercial (.com) source • scholarly journal • popular magazine • encyclopedia • book • website • blog • social media • Does where it was published indicate its purpose and how it was made? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to inform • to persuade • to entertain • to share a point of view? • Can information about WHO wrote the piece and WHERE it was published indicate something about its purpose? • Do you detect bias? 	<p>Did the author:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • gather data or information from outside sources; • incorporate in-text citations and a list of references; • present supporting pieces of data, sources, citations, quotes --write from personal experience • use a reliable research method • Did the production of this information go through a vetting, editing or peer review process?
If the source is a web site, is there a link to a "home page" or "about us" to see who is sponsoring the page?	Is it a primary or secondary document?	Is your topic time-sensitive requiring the most up-to-date information or is your topic more historically oriented?	Can the information be verified with another source?	Why is this document useful to you?	If there's not an actual "works cited," are there any internal references to other sources?



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HOW?	How was it written? How was it published? (What makes the way this publication was produced reliable or not?)
EXPLAIN	Would you feel confident in using the source for your research needs? Explain why or why not?

