


How to choose a good online source

A Student Help Series




A student writes, "Help, my teacher won't accept my online sources. How do I know which sources are good and which sources are not? What should I ask myself when evaluating websites and articles?"


1 Who Wrote It?

Is there an author listed?	Does the author have credentials on the subject?	Is the author current in the field?	Does the author cite others?	WHO
	Can you corroborate what the author states?	Is the author selling something?	Do you trust the author?	


2 What is it For?

What is the website used for?	What is the information on the website used for?	What else is on the website?	Do you see any disclaimers?	WHAT
What will you use the information for?	Can the information be corroborated?	Will others trust you if you use this information?		

3 Why Was it Written

Why does the website exist?		Why does the article exist?	Does it exist to sell something or educate?	WHY
Was it written with accuracy?	Does the article have an unbiased style?	Are there sponsors on the website?	Do you trust the website?	

4 When Was it Written?

When was the website created?	Is the website current?		When was the article written?	WHEN
Was it written during a specific era?	Was it written during a specific event?	Is the article current?	Is the information in the article current & reliable?	



By: Mia MacMeekin
 anethicalisland.wordpress.org
 epigogy.org