

Name: _____ Date: _____ Period: _____

RADCAB Webquest

With so many different websites out there, how do you know which one to use for your research? How can you tell what's true or false? Complete the following webquest to learn how to be a better Internet researcher!

Use www.radcab.com to finish this worksheet. (Double click on the blank, and write in CAPITAL letters or change their color to show your answers.)

What does RADCAB stand for?

- R _____ Is the information relevant to the question at hand? Am I on the _____?
- A _____ Is the information suitable to _____ and core values?
- D _____ How _____ do I need? Is the depth of coverage adequate?
- C _____ _____ was the information published or last _____?
- A _____ Who is the _____ of the information? What are his or her _____? (Why should I listen to him or her?)
- B _____ _____ was this information written? Was it written to _____ me, _____ me, _____ me, or _____ me something?

RELEVANCY

Most of us don't like to waste time. In order to be efficient "info-tectives" we need to begin our information search with _____ and _____ that relate to our information problem.

Using specific _____ and _____ that relate to our research questions helps us focus our search energies and keep us on task.

By keeping our **focus questions and search terms** at the front of our brains, we are less apt to fall into that time-wasting black hole of _____ information.

APPROPRIATENESS

Call the cops! No wait, they can't help me. I am the one who will make the arrest here. What? Arrest an information source?

Stop, look and listen.

Information sources that make you feel _____ or _____ are information sources to be _____ ASAP.

You are in charge of “policing” your own research activity. How? By setting your own personal _____ for what you _____, read and listen to that take into account _____ **and core** _____.

DETAIL

“**How much** _____ **do I need?**” is a valuable question to ask early in the research process. The answer should help you determine where to look for information and when you can stop looking.

Check the information source for _____. Does the information source offer you the _____ **of coverage** you need for your assignment?

There are specific _____ to look for in a website that can help the researcher determine the site's usefulness. Using these details will help you evaluate a website for its quality of construction, content, and depth of coverage.

What are the details?	How are they useful?
Site _____	_____ and scope
Page organization: titles, headings, and subtitles	Navigation and evidence of quality construction
Works cited pages	_____ to information sources used
External _____	_____ information sources
_____ search engine	_____ information retrieval
Interactive, _____ elements	Visual aids and interface interaction
Design appeal	Easy and _____ to use

CURRENCY

Who doesn't like something new? New cars, new clothes, new experiences.

New or _____ information is desirable too. Current information is often what our research questions _____. But sometimes older information sources may contribute as much if not more value to research as newer information sources.

The quality of our research is related to how _____ we analyze the **currency** of our information sources.

Knowing when the information source was **last** _____ **or** _____ helps us determine the usefulness of the information presented.

AUTHORITY

So who really cares if the information you found on the Internet isn't totally _____?
Um...how about your teacher?...or your employer?...or how about *you* when you need personal, life-
important information regarding your health, your finances, and your life-style choices?

Authoritative information sources have everything to do with how _____ and
_____ the information presented is. *You* need to care **who is behind the**
_____ you are using, not only as a matter of personal integrity, but also as a
matter of personal safety.

What are the **author's** _____? Is the author associated with a particular
_____, university, organization, company, or _____ agency? Is
his or her _____ address included on the website?

Take the _____ to find out who is behind the information!

BIAS

Trick or treat? Truth or lies? How do you _____ know if the information you have found
has a **special** _____ (purpose) behind it? Does the
information have a particular **angle, slant, or spin** to it?

Look for clues. Clues like:

- the _____ name
- the domain _____ (.com, .edu, .gov, etc.)
- the _____
- the mission statement
- the authorship or _____ behind the information
- the _____ of voice or language used

_____ isn't always bad. We benefit from hearing other people's opinions. It is just
good to know **why the information was** _____ **in the first place**. If you can
recognize bias, then you can be a better judge of how you will use the information, or if you will use it
at all.

Ask: "Does the information exist because someone wants to _____ **me,**
_____ **me,** _____ **me, or** _____ **me**
something?"