LIBRARIES EVALUATING SOURCES

How do you know if a source is reliable? This worksheet will guide you through questions to ask!

AUTHOR

Who is the author? What makes them an authority to speak on this topic?

PUBLICATION

Where is this published? Check their website to see if they have an "about" page describing their mission and editorial process.



Hint: authority can come from a person's educational background, their job, societal position, or relevant personal

Hint: If they don't have that information on their website, see if they have a Wikipedia page or if other publications have written about them.

WARNING SIGNS

What are some warning signs this source might not be reliable?



What type of source is this? Is it a scholarly source, popular source, a government report, or something else? How do you know?

Hint: Consider what type of editing or review process the source had to go through before it could be published



IS THIS SOURCE RELIABLE?

Is this source credible/reliable? Why or why not? To determine this, consider the author, publication, whether the source uses citations or other means to refer to other sources, and whether the source is fair/objective.