



# *Credible Sources*

*Ms. Bishop Spring 2017*

# Start here: Homer High Library

<http://homerhighlibrary.blogs.kpbsd.k12.ak.us>

- Magazines link
  - Atlantic Monthly – continuously surprised by every topic covered by *The Atlantic*
  - Harper's; The World; and Imprints also available
- SLED – free databases for Alaskan residents
  - Takes some refining and diligence, but lots of great information
  - Refine search using tools on the left
  - Please ask Ms. Bishop or Ms. Akers for help if having trouble with SLED databases

# Google!

- *Google is not a source and should not be listed on your Work Cited Page.*
- *Google is a way to search the Internet.*
- *Choose reliable, credible sources.*
- *Magazines and Newspapers: New York Times, USA Today, Huffington Post*
- *.edu; .gov; .edu*
- *Avoid cites with lots of commercials and fluff on the page*

# Checklist for Evaluating Websites

*The more often you answer yes to the questions on the following pages, the more reliable the source is likely to be.*

- *Criterion #1: Authority*
- *Criterion #2: Accuracy*
- *Criterion #3: Point of View*
- *Criterion #4: Recency*
- *Criterion #5: Coverage*

## Criterion #1: Authority

1. Is there an author or person or group responsible for the page (look for major associations; such as The American Cancer Society, National Geographic Society, NCPA (National College Players Association), etc.
2. Are the author's qualifications listed?
3. Does the site belong to a larger group whose purpose is explained?
4. How recent has the website been updated? Are all the links active and go to another page?

## Criterion #2: Accuracy

- Is the site free of grammatical and spelling errors as far as you can tell?
- Is a bibliography or Works Cited included?
- Does the information agree with your other sources?

## Criterion #3: Point of View

- Is the information free of advertising?
- Is the information free of bias toward a particular point of view?
- Or is the source explicitly one sided? Is the purpose to present only one side?

## Criterion #4: Recency

- Is there a date indicating when the page was last updated?
- Is it current?

## Criterion #5: Coverage

- Does the web page appear complete (not a work in progress)?
- Does the information appear comprehensive of the topic or brief?

## From the Rubric:

|                    |   |  |   |
|--------------------|---|--|---|
| Source Reliability | All sources are accurate and reliable. Most are from well-known reputable organizations and/or web sites. | Most sources are accurate and reliable, but one or two are questionable. | Too many are from questionable and/or commercial sources. |
|--------------------|---|--|---|