

Evaluating Sources Checklist

Use the following checklists to help you decide if a source is Academic (Trustworthy, reliable etc) . **Remember:** The best place to start your search is always **Arden's Online Library!**

The CRAAP Checklist	Yes/No
Currency – Was it created, published or revised recently?	<input type="checkbox"/>
Relevance – Is it useful? Does it discuss the topic in question?	<input type="checkbox"/>
Authority – Is the author qualified or an expert on the subject?	<input type="checkbox"/>
Accuracy – Can you check the evidence? Is it unbiased?	<input type="checkbox"/>
Purpose – Is it academic or professional? Is it impartial and objective?	<input type="checkbox"/>

Questions To Consider	Yes/No/Response
What are the qualifications of the author?	
Has the writing been peer reviewed?	
The key point discussed by the author: is this clearly defined?	
What evidence has the author produced to support this central idea?	
How convincing are the reasons given for the author’s point of view?	
Could the evidence be interpreted in other ways?	
What is the author's theoretical framework (e.g. psychological, developmental)	
What is the relationship assumed by the author between theory and practice?	
Has the author critically evaluated the other literature in the field?	
Does the author include literature opposing her/his point of view?	
Is the research data valid– i.e. based on a reliable method and accurate information?	
Can you "deconstruct" the argument – identify the gaps or jumps in the logic?	
Is the writing objective? Is there bias?	
What are the strengths and limitations of this study?	
Who is the target audience?	



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