

Web Page Evaluation Checklist

The column on the left lists questions to ask to investigate web pages. Evaluating web pages requires two actions:

- Be suspicious
- Think critically about every page you find

	Title of page you are evaluating: CNBC	Title of page you are evaluating: How Stuff Works
1. Look at the URL:		
Is it a personal page or site? <i>~ or % or users, members or people</i>	YES, option to log in.	NO.
What type of domain is it? Is it appropriate for the content?	Commercial, YES.	Commercial, YES.
What is the name of the publisher or domain name entity? Does it correspond to the name of the site?	CNBC, LLC.; YES.	HowStuffWorks, a division of InfoSpace, LLC; YES
2. Scan the perimeter of the page, looking for answers to these questions:		
Who wrote the page? List name and/or email	Javier E. David	Planet Green bloggers
What is the date created or last updated?	Created: 02/14/2015	Last Updated: 2015
What credentials does the page/site have on this subject?	Accredited sources cited.	Accredited sources cited.
3. Look for these indicators of quality		
Are sources of information well documented?	YES	YES
Does the page/site have links to more resources? and do they work?	YES	YES
Are other viewpoints given? Is the page/site bias?	Page is NOT biased, it tells the history of Valentine's Day.	Page is biased, but provides disclaimer that each individual blogger's viewpoints are presented, not those of the webpage as a whole.
4. What do others say about this page/site?		
Who links to this page/site? Hint: In Google search: <i>link:all.or.part.of.url</i>	Other sites informing on history of Valentine's Day link to this page.	Pages within HowStuffWorks site link to this URL.
Is the page rated well in a directory? http://infomine.ucr.edu	"Infomine is now offline..." message appeared.	"Infomine is now offline..." message appeared.
Look up the author in Google. What information did you find?	Numerous biographies and other sites he has written for/is linked to.	Articles on how to "live green," and be more environmentally friendly.
5. Does it all add up?		

Why was the page put on the Web? Inform, facts, data; Explain; Persuade; Sell; Entice; Share/disclose; Other	To inform the public of the history of Valentine’s Day.	Share/explain information on how the world around us works.
Possibly ironic? Satire or parody?	NO	NO

BOTTOM LINE: Is the web page as good as (or better than) what you could find in journal articles or other published literature that is not on the free, general web?

- **Yes; When you utilize the “free, general web,” there is much more access to information, rebuttal sites, and unlimited additional resources. Most valid and accredited sites will provide some of these things directly on their page/site.**