INFORMATION SOURCES: Criteria for Evaluation

BLIS4009

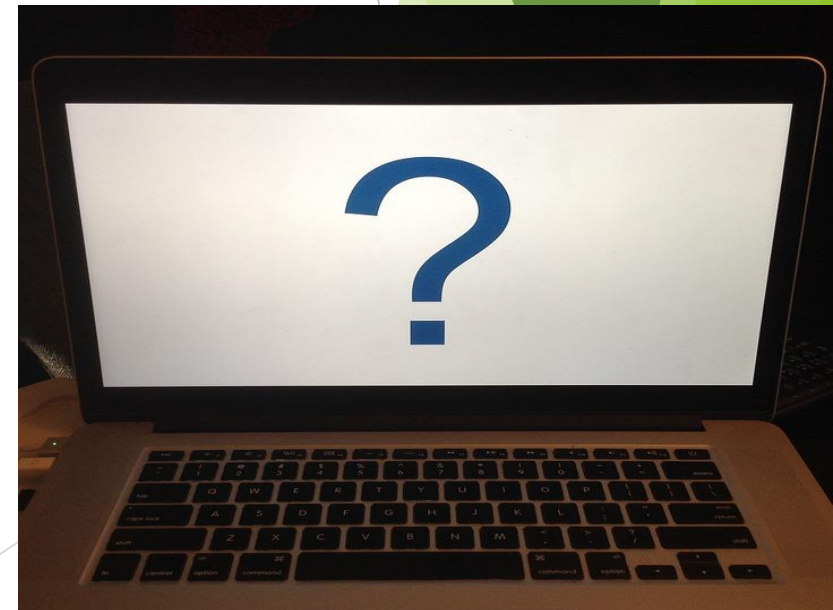Dr. Bhaw Nath Pandey

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EVALUATION OF INFORMATION SOURCES

INTRODUCTION

▶ The evaluation of information sources is a very important task to determine the authenticity, correctness, quality & reliability of information sources especially in case of research progress or research project.

NEED OF EVALUATION OF INFORMATION SOURCES :-

▶ Since all the information sources are not reliable or not suitable for project work , study , research ,teaching & learning & various other activities & also information sources vary widely in their authority, accuracy, objectivity, currency or coverage.

 So, it is required to some criteria for evaluation of information sources in order to overcome the above mentioned problems.

Some important criteria for evaluation of information sources are :-CRAAP

▶ The CRAAP TEST, developed by Sarah Blakeslee and her team of Librarians at California State University, Chico.

▶ **C**-CURRENCY

▶ **R**-RELEVANCY

▶ **A**-AUTHORITY

▶ **A**-ACCURACY

▶ **P**-PURPOSE

Some important criteria for evaluation of information sources are :-CRAAP

Applying Evaluation Criteria

C — Currency
- Is the information up to date?

R — Relevance
- Does the information suit my purpose?

A — Accuracy
- Fact or opion?
- Is bias evident?
- References?

A — Authorship
- An academic or expert in their field?
- Is bias evident?

P — Purpose
- To inform or persuade?
- To sell?

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CURRENCY:-

▶ This deals with the time of the publication of the information source.

▶ **It tells :**–

(a). When was the information created / published/ compiled ?

(b). *Is the information regularly updated* ?

(c). Is the date of publication important to the sub-matter (i.e. – scientific research may require updated information ?

(d). *Is it current or out of date for our topic* ?

(e). Is more recent information related to that topic is available or not ?

RELEVANCY:-

▶ **It determines :**–

(a). Who is the audience ?

(b). Is the content of information is appropriate for the user or up to the mark ?

AUTHORITY:-

- **It determines:-**

(a). Who is the author ?

(b). Who is the publisher ?

(c). What are the author's affiliation ?

(d). Is the author qualified in the particular subject covered in the information source ?

(e). What are the objectives or values of the sponsoring institutions, agencies or organisations ?

AUTHORITY:-

(f). Is the authority responsible for information source reputed ?

(g). Does the web , URL or website of that information source is available or has been created or not ?

ACCURACY:-

It determines :-

(a). Where does the information come from ?

(b). Could the information be verified ?

(c) . Is there any spelling, grammar or typological errors ?

⚠ **WARNING**
BEWARE OF FALSE INFORMATION

PURPOSE :-

▶ It determines –

(a). What is the purpose of information (i. e. – to inform ,teach , sell , entertain or express a point of view etc.) ?

(b). Is the information based on fact or opinion ?

References:

- Bailin, A, Grafstein, A. The critical assessment of research: Traditional and new methods of evaluation. Oxford, UK: Chandos,2010.

- Cooke, A. A guide to finding quality information on the internet: Selection and evaluation strategies. 2nd ed. London, UK: Library Association, 2001.

- https://ccconline.libguides.com/EvaluateSources