**Identifying High-Quality Sites**

Name of Site:

URL:

Website Test

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Purpose of the Site** | **Circle One** | **Add Details to Explain** |
| 1. Can you tell if the site is one-sided or biased? | Yes No |  |
| 1. Is the site free of advertising? | Yes No |  |
| 1. Is the site sponsored by any organizations? | Yes No |  |
| 1. Is the tone calm and fair? (sites that are mean and angry may not be good sources of information) | Yes No |  |
| 1. Is the site’s domain .edu, .net, .org, or .gov? (if you see a ~ in the URL, it may be a personal site, not an official site) | Yes No |  |
| **Trustworthiness of the Author** | **Circle One** | **Add Details to Explain** |
| 1. Is the author identified by name? | Yes No |  |
| 1. Is the place the author works or the organization he/she belongs to given? | Yes No |  |
| 1. Are sources given for statistics? | Yes No |  |
| 1. Can the author be contacted if you have questions? (by email, street address, or phone number) | Yes No |  |
| 1. Is the site free of spelling, typographical, and grammatical errors? | Yes No |  |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Up-to-Date Information** | **Circle One** | **Add Details to Explain** |
| 1. Can you find the date the article, page, or site was created? | Yes No |  |
| 1. Can you find the date it was revised? | Yes No |  |
| **Ease of Use** | **Circle One** | **Add Details to Explain** |
| 1. Is the type easy to see? | Yes No |  |
| 1. Do the titles and headings give a clear idea of the content? | Yes No |  |
| 1. Are these photos, maps, charts, or other illustrations that help you understand the information? | Yes No |  |
| 1. Is there a site map? | Yes No |  |
| 1. Is there a tool for searching the site? | Yes No |  |
| 1. Are link labeled clearly? | Yes No |  |

**How many times did you circle YES? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ out of a total of 18.**

**Score your site!**

15-18: You have a winner! You can trust the information on your site, and it’s easy to use, too!

9-14: Proceed with caution. If you use any information from your site, be sure to fact check it on a site you can trust. You can also quote the author’s opinion, but make sure you say that’s what it is.

0-8: Sorry, your site is a dud. It isn’t safe to use this site as a source of information, so find a better one.