Website Evaluation Rubric

Name: _______________________________________   Date: _________________________
Teacher: _____________________________________    Period: _______________________

TASK: Complete entire rubric for each website used in your research. Do not leave any blanks.

INFORMATION SEEKING STRATEGY/LOCATION & ACCESS:

What is the URL of the website? _________________________________________________
What is the name/title of the website? _____________________________________________
Date Visited: ________________________________________________________________
Location Method: ____________________________________________________________

(Was this site recommended? Did you find it using Google or a directory? What keywords did you use?)

USE OF INFORMATION/SYNTHESIS:
Quickly scan the website.
Find the following information around the perimeter of the page or by exploring links on the home page. Give ONE score for each major category.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Criteria &amp; Types of Evidence</th>
<th>Website Evidence</th>
<th>Rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Authority</td>
<td></td>
<td>3 2 1 0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| • The author is clearly stated, whether an individual, institution, or organization.  
  *hint: use www.easywhois.com |                  |       |
| • Credentials, expertise or experience are clearly stated.  
  *hint: Look for a biography or “About” link. |                  |       |
| • Contact information is easily accessible. |                  |       |
| • The intended audience is clear. |                  |       |
| Other things to consider: |                  |       |
| • What do others say? Who links to it?  
  *hint: Do a link: search in Google |                  |       |
| • Is the page rated well in a directory such as lii.org or infomine.ucr.edu? |                  |       |

Objectivity/Bias
• The purpose of the site is clear, including any specific point of view.  
• There is a statement of scope and purpose.  
• Sponsorship and/or affiliations are clearly stated.  
Other things to consider:  
• Is information presented as fact or opinion?  
• Is it primary or secondary information?
### Accuracy
- Facts are documented or well-researched.
- Facts compare to other print or subscription resources.
- A resource link to other quality websites is provided and the links work.
- URL suggests reputable affiliation (.edu=higher education; .k12=primary/secondary education; .org=nonprofit; .com=commercial; .net=Internet Service Provider; .gov=government; .mil=military)
- The information is relevant to my needs.
- I am positive that the information is true. (Prove it →)

### Currency
- There is evidence that content is current. (Prove it →)
- Last update or copyright date is current enough for my needs.

### Usability/Technical Content
- Organization is logical and site is easy to navigate
- Link is reliable and easily accessible.
- Pages load quickly and completely.
- There are no spelling, typographical or grammatical errors.
- There is a clear link back to institutional or organizational home page.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Accuracy</th>
<th>Currency</th>
<th>Usability/Technical Content</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Subtotal** (total for each column)

**TOTAL POINTS** (add up the columns)

---

### EVALUATION OF WEBSITE:

**POINTS ASSESSMENT**

- 0-4 points = Does Not Meet Standard
- 5-7 points = Approaching the Standard
- 8-11 points = Meets the Standard
- 12-15 points = Exceeds the Standard

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Point Rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Website must Meet the Standard to use it for your research*

**PERSONAL ASSESSMENT**

- Is this web page as good as or better than what you found in journal articles or other publications that are not on the free web? **YES / NO**

- Would you recommend this site? **YES / NO**

- Why or why not?
Website Evaluation Narrative

Name: ________________________________ Date: ______________________
Teacher: ______________________________ Period: ______________________
Website URL: __________________________________________________________
Website Title: __________________________________________________________
Date Visited: ____________

How does this site help prove your thesis/answer your essential question? Explain why this site is or is not valid for your information need. Use ALL 5 criteria (authority, objectivity, accuracy, currency, and usability) in your short paragraph answer.