



Butler Area Senior High School Library
Evaluating Web Pages - Authority Criteria

AUTHORITY CRITERIA - Person	YES or NO	AUTHORITY CRITERIA - Organization	YES or NO
1. Who is the person presenting/writing this topic? Is the author's name listed? (not the same as the <i>Webmaster</i>)		1. Is the name of the organization on the page?	
 – IF YOU ANSWERED NO TO QUESTION #1, DO NOT USE THIS SITE		 – IF YOU ANSWERED NO TO QUESTION #1, DO NOT USE THIS SITE	
2. Is there biographical information that shows the author is an expert in his/her field?		2. Is there background information about the organization?	
➤ Educational background listed?		3. Is there contact information listed?	
➤ Employment/professional background listed?		➤ An e-mail address?	
➤ Is there enough information for you to verify the author's credentials if you had to?		➤ Is there enough information for you to verify the organization's credentials if you had to?	
3. Is there contact information listed?		➤ A contact name, phone number and/or regular address?	
➤ An e-mail address?		4. Do you recognize the organization as well known by the public?	
➤ A phone number and/or regular address?		5. Does the author provide a bibliographic list of sources used to gather the information ?	
4. Is the author a teacher or professor of the subject?		6. Does the author cite well-known sources that can be cross-checked with a keyword search using a search engine like <i>Google</i> ?	
5. Does the author provide a bibliographic list of sources used to gather the information?		If you answered yes to all of the questions, this site may be a reliable source of information. Questions 2-6: If there are more than three answered no, find another site to use.	
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