

Print Source Evaluation Sheet *CAARS*

Not every author knows what he or she is talking about. There are always people who simply want to make a profit. Here is an easy way to decide if a source is valid and worth your time. Read the criteria below to decide if the source displays the CAARS criteria or not. Use a scoring scale of 0-5; where 0 is the worst in a criterion and 5 is the best. Then write a brief evaluation of the source.

There are a total of 5 points for each criterion. A Total score of:

23-25 = Excellent 21-22 = Good 19-20 = Fair 18-below = Poor

Source Title _____

Author or Editor of source _____

Criteria (CAARS)	Score
Currency: Is the copyright current enough for your purposes?	
Appropriateness: Does the work have the type and amount of information I need?	
Authority: Is the author of the work knowledgeable on the subject?	
Reliability: Is the information fact or opinion? Can it be backed up by other sources?	
Suitability: Is it easy to find information? (Is there an index and/or table of contents that are helpful?)	
TOTAL	
Based on the scores you gave, do you think this is a good source for your research project? How do you <i>feel</i> about this source? Confident? Encouraged? Unsure? Disappointed? Please explain. _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____	

Website Evaluation Sheet

Does your website have CLAAASS?

Anyone anywhere can post anything to the web. However, not everyone knows what they are talking about or necessarily knows how to clearly convey a message. Of course there are always people who simply want to make a profit. Here's an easy way to decide whether or not a website is valid and worth your time. Read the criteria below to decide if the website displays the CLAAAS criteria or not. Use a scoring scale of 0-5; where 0 is the worst in a criterion and 5 is the best. Then write a brief evaluation of the website.

There are a total of 7 points for each criterion. A Total score of:

33-35 = Excellent 29-32 = Good 26-28 = Fair 25-below = Poor

Title of Website: _____

Website URL: _____

Criteria (CLAAASS)	Score
Currency: Is the information up-to-date?	
Links: Are there any dead links on the page? Do all of the links work?	
Appropriateness: Does the site have the type and amount of information I need?	
Advertising: Is the site full of distracting advertising?	
Authority: Is the author of the page knowledgeable on the subject?	
Spelling: Is the page free of spelling and/or grammatical errors?	
Suitability: Is it easy to find information and navigate around the site? (Is there a site map, search bar, table of contents or list of links to help you?)	
TOTAL	
Does your website have CLAAASS? Based on the scores you gave, do you think this is a good website for your research project? How do you <i>feel</i> about this site? Really lucky to find it? Not a complete waste of my time? Of little or no use to me? Please explain. _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____	