

## Authenticity: Evaluating Sources with the CRAAP Test

Name: MS Sidaway-Wolf

What does "authenticity" mean?

We are bombarded with ideas, opinions, and information all the time. Information and misinformation can be used for many purposes, some of which may be to convince or even mislead. As you participate in the world around you, your job is to decide what you think and what you will do. In order to make the best decisions for yourself, you need to know how to get good information that you can trust. By using the CRAAP Test you can consider information that's coming your way and decide how to use it.

<b>C</b>	<b>urrency</b>
When was the information published, updated, end/or revised?	
<b>R</b>	<b>elevance</b>
Intended audience ; Related to your to topic ; Appropriate reading level	
<b>A</b>	<b>uthority</b>
Who are the authors /editors/publishers ? Peer-reviewed ?	
<b>A</b>	<b>ccuracy</b>
Do other sources back up the information?	
<b>P</b>	<b>urpose</b>
Is it objective (fact-based, not opinion) ?	

**BLM 1 Evaluating Websites**

zapatopi.net/treeoctopus

Name of website: Save the Endangered Pacific Northwest Tree octopus from Extinction!

Author or creator (if known):

Date the site was "published":

Rate each factor below using a 6-point scale (1 is lowest, 6 is highest); provide a brief rationale for your score.

Accuracy: Who is the author? Does the author provide a bibliography or contact information? Is the information on this site consistent with other sources? Does the information make sense?

1	2	3	4	5	6
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**Authority:** Is the author an expert on this subject? How do you know? Does the author have credentials? If the website has Indigenous content, is the author a knowledgeable community member or valued Indigenous knowledge-keeper? For non-Indigenous content, is the author affiliated with a university or research institution? The domain extension can help you determine the type of resource (.com=commercial; .edu=education; .org=organization).

1	2	3	4	5	6
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**Context:** What is the purpose of this site? Why would someone go to the trouble of creating it and providing information? Is there evidence of bias?

1	2	3	4	5	6
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**Currency:** How up-to-date is the site? Can you tell when it was last modified or updated? Do the links work? Are the listed resources out-of-date or no longer relevant, or are they fairly current?

1	2	3	4	5	6
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*Challenges with Representation*

**Coverage:** Do the links lead to other authoritative sources, or unrelated ones? Does the site provide enough detail about the topic, or are there gaps?

1	2	3	4	5	6
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**Design:** Does the web page look professional? Is it easy to read and navigate, or is it cluttered and hard to move through?

1	2	3	4	5	6
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**Final Evaluation:** Rate the apparent authenticity of this resource. Would you recommend it?

1	2	3	4	5	6
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Adapted from a UNBC Library video available at [www.youtube.com/watch?v=RORvUZBJjf8](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RORvUZBJjf8)

(The video is just under 4 minutes long, and covers the topics in more detail.)

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