



## ANSWER KEY

### Evaluating & Choosing Sources (Video)

Check your knowledge about this topic by answering these questions.

1. For which of these topics is it important to consider the timeliness of a source's information?

Mark all that are correct.

13 points

- Life on the Oregon Trail
- Endangered species
- How to bake chocolate chip cookies
- How technology helps doctors do their job

2. There are several ways to help you decide if the information in a source is relevant to, or matches, your topic. Which is NOT correct?

13 points

- Scan the table of contents and index.
- Check out the pictures and their captions.
- Pay attention to headings and subheadings on pages.
- Read the entire source, keeping your research questions in mind.

3. When considering the authority and accuracy of a source, which statement is FALSE?

13 points

- Authority means that the author is knowledgeable about the topic he or she wrote about.
- Accuracy is the least important factor to consider when evaluating a potential source.
- Books in your school library have already been evaluated for authority and accuracy.
- When considering using a website, it is important to evaluate the accuracy of the information and the author's expertise.

4. When considering the relevance of a source, what is MOST important?

11 points

- Whether or not the author of the source is an expert on the topic
- Why the author chose to write the source
- Whether the information in the source answers one or more of your research questions
- When the source was written

5. When considering an author's purpose, which statement is FALSE?

11 points

- Purpose is the reason the information was created.
- You should ask who wrote the information and why.
- The purpose of the information might be to entertain, inform, persuade, or sell.
- If the purpose is to persuade, automatically put the source in the "no" pile.

6. An author's opinions, thoughts, and feelings in favor of or against a topic are called bias. Which statements are TRUE about evaluating information for bias?

Mark all that are correct.

13 points

- Everyone is biased, so it is not important to consider bias.
- If an author is trying to persuade you on an issue, the information is biased.
- If an author explains both sides of an issue, automatically put the source in your "yes" pile.
- Consider bias when thinking about an author's purpose for sharing information.

7. Which statements about the copyright date of a book are TRUE?

Mark all that are correct.

13 points

- The copyright date is usually on the back of the title page.
- The copyright date shows when the book was published or created.
- If a book has an older copyright date, automatically put it in the "no" pile.
- Knowing the copyright date helps you when considering the purpose of the information.

8. Which statements about TRAAPing, or evaluating, a source are TRUE?

Mark all that are correct.

13 points

- When a source answers one of your research questions but provides very limited information, put the source in the “maybe” pile.
- You must consider all five factors before making a decision about whether or not to use a source -- timeliness, relevance, authority, accuracy, and purpose.
- Understanding the timeliness, relevance, authority, accuracy, and purpose of the information will help you decide whether or not to use a source.
- Once you have divided your potential sources into “yes,” “maybe,” and “no” piles, reevaluate the “no” sources to make sure you did not miss something important.