


The C.R.A.A.P. Test Evaluation Checklist

C.R.A.A.P. Criteria	Notes	 
Currency – timeliness of the information <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When was the resource originally created? • Has the resource been updated or revised recently? • Is the information current enough for your topic? • Has the information since been refuted by other journals or publications? • If a website, who maintains it? Are there broken links that indicate that the site is not being kept up-to-date? 		
Relevance – importance of the information for your needs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is the information related to your topic? • Is it an in-depth examination or a quick summary? • Who is the intended audience? The general public, researchers, or industry? Is the content level appropriate to your level, not too basic or advanced? • Is this information part of a more comprehensive source that would be more appropriate for your research? 		
Authority – the source of the information <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Who is the author/publisher/source/sponsor? • Is there contact information for the author? • What qualifications does this person or organisation have to discuss this topic? Does the author have a university degree in the discipline or are they expressing opinions? • Does the URL indicate what type of organisation the information is coming from (eg. .edu.au, .gov.au, .org.au)? • Has the author provided evidence to back up their information? • For websites, is there a “Disclaimer statement” – this might indicate the website is a joke or a hoax? 		
Accuracy – reliability, truthfulness, and correctness of the content <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does the information appear to be truthful and correct? • Can you verify the information by checking at least two other sources on the same topic? • Does the language or tone seem unbiased and objective? • Is there any evidence of peer-review? • Are there any spelling, grammatical, or other obvious errors? 		
Purpose – the reason the information exists <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is the information written on behalf of a lobby group, think tank, corporation, religious, or political group? Read the “About Us” page to find out more about the author/organisation. • Are facts and arguments presented for both sides of an issue or only the author’s point-of-view? • If a website, does the site include advertising? Can you clearly delineate which parts of the site are advertising and which are information? • Does the source use inflammatory language, images, or graphic styles? 		