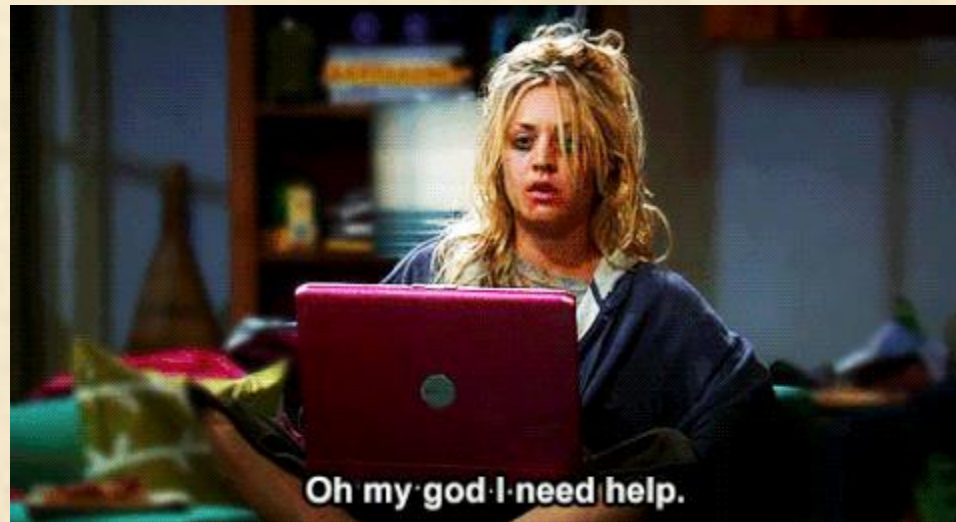


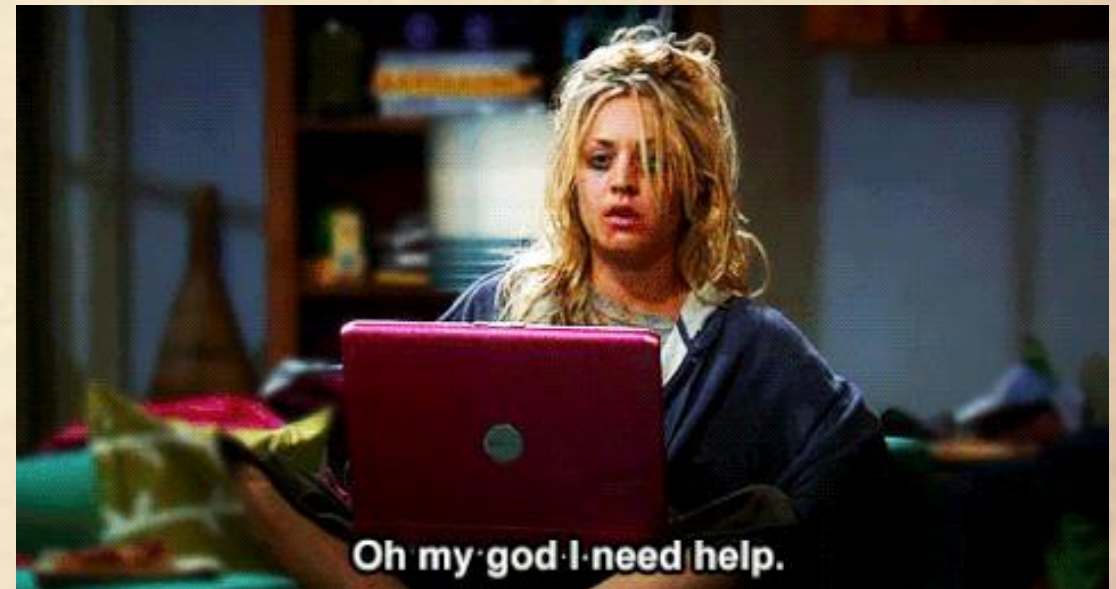
Writing 2101

Lecture 4



Today's Class

1. Take up Quiz
2. Next Assignment – the Proposal
3. The detailed step-by-step process continued
4. Focus on Research
5. Katie Holmes: The Library
6. Assigned Reading



Quiz



1. What is the difference between a fact and an opinion?
2. What is the difference between a question and a rhetorical question?
3. What are the four qualities of a good source?
4. What are two types sources that are appropriate for preliminary research?

Writing 2101 – Proposal Assignment

This assignment is on June 9 by 6 pm (EST). It should be uploaded to assignments in a WORD document. Double space, use Times New Roman, 12pt font. Assignments which are not in word will not receive comments and will have 5% deducted.

You will need to determine which documentation style is used in your major subject area. If there is no specified documentation style, choose MLA. You will use whichever documentation style you choose as the style for the next Annotated Bibliography and the final version of your essay.

There are TWO parts to this assignment...

Part A: Proposal

Briefly explain the topic you have chosen for your major paper. This should be one to two paragraphs long (300-500 words) and should include a clear, tentative working thesis. For example, 'Climate change is a scientific fact and not a debatable political question.' Briefly state what you think your main arguments will be.

Part B: Outline: Give a very skeletal outline of what you anticipate your paper will look like.

Thesis: this paper will argue that climate change is a scientific fact and not a debatable political question

Paragraph 1or Subheading 1:

- history of the topic
- early 20th century
- mid 20th century
- late 20th and early 21st century

Paragraph 2:

- climate change in the news
- as a political tool
- major government bodies

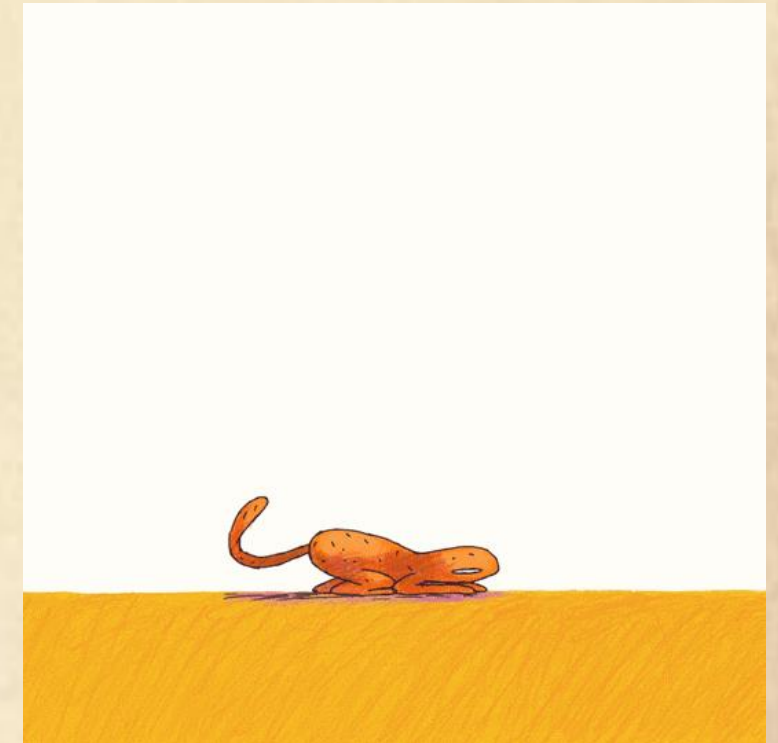
Paragraph 3:

- scientific evidence part 1
- research on oceans - research on industry effects

Paragraph 4:

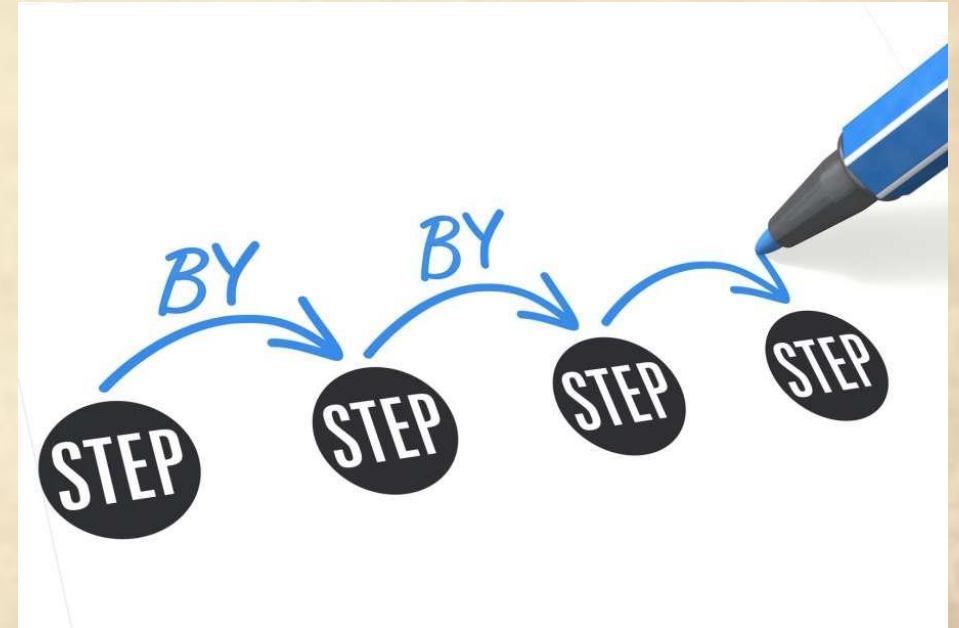
- scientific evidence part 2
- meteorological research
- major researchers' findings

And so on for as many paragraphs as you need to prove your thesis



Re-cap on our Step-by Step Process

1. Topic? Purpose? Make a timeline
 1. Serious, academic purpose
 2. Consider audience – academic community
 3. Thesis must be provable by research within the confines of your paper
2. Generate ideas/brainstorm
3. Tentative Working Thesis
4. Preliminary Outline



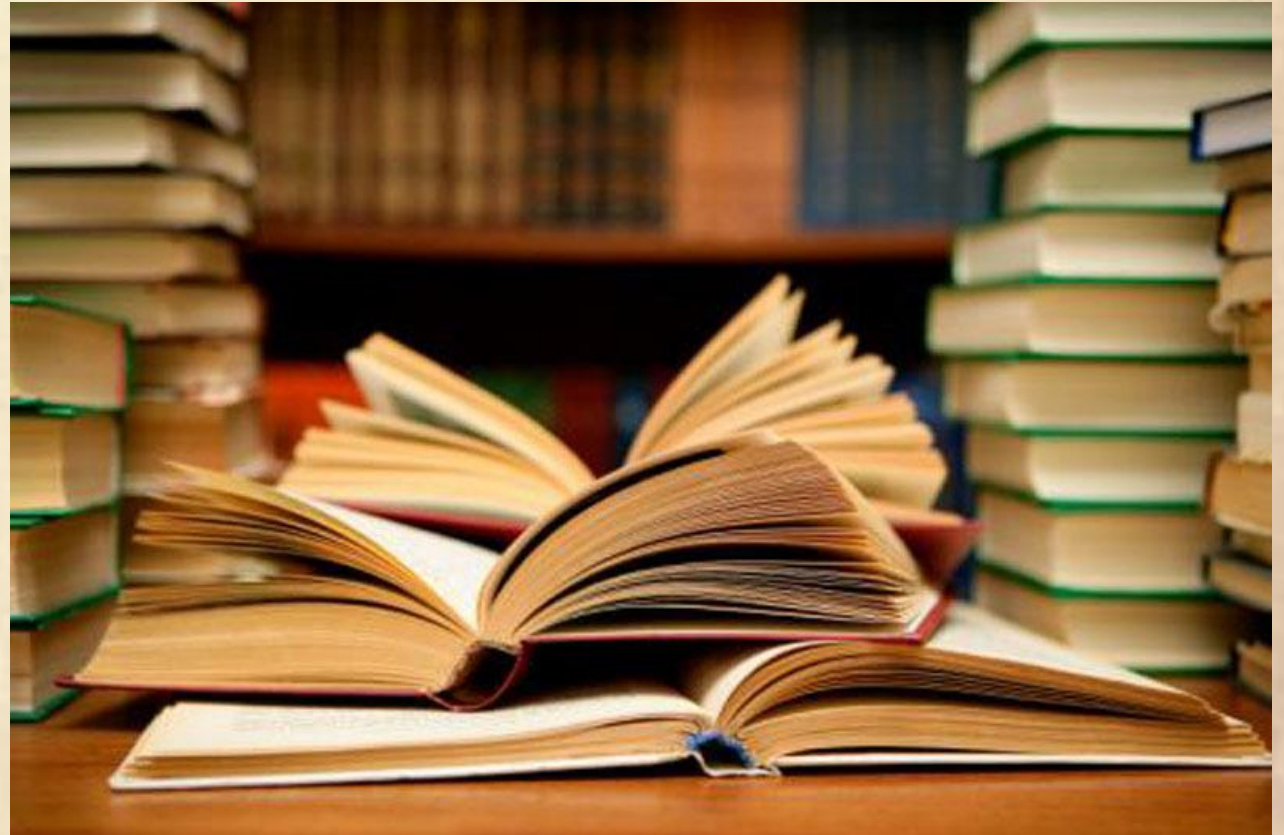
Step 5: Preliminary Research

- Will there be enough information available?
- ALWAYS write down ANY source that you look at
- Generate a preliminary list of sources
- Where can you look?
 - On-line
 - Encyclopedia/Wikipedia
 - Skim a couple of recent books
 - People
 - Paper trail



Good Sources

1. Relevant
2. In-depth
3. Recent
4. Credible





- **Currency**

- **Relevance**

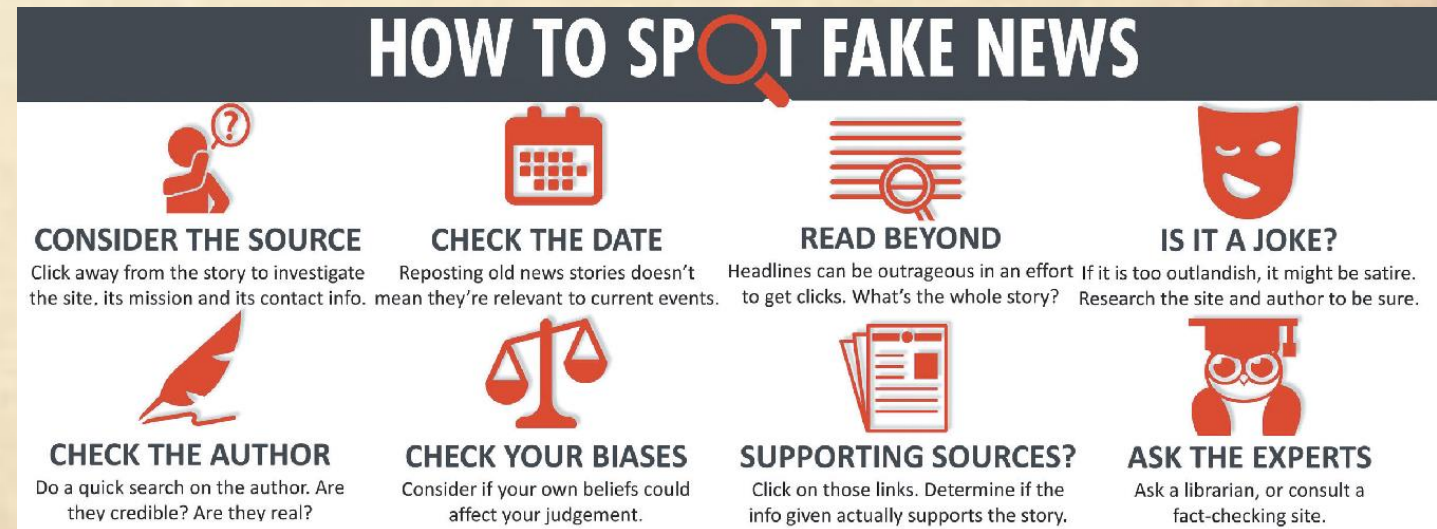
- **Authority**

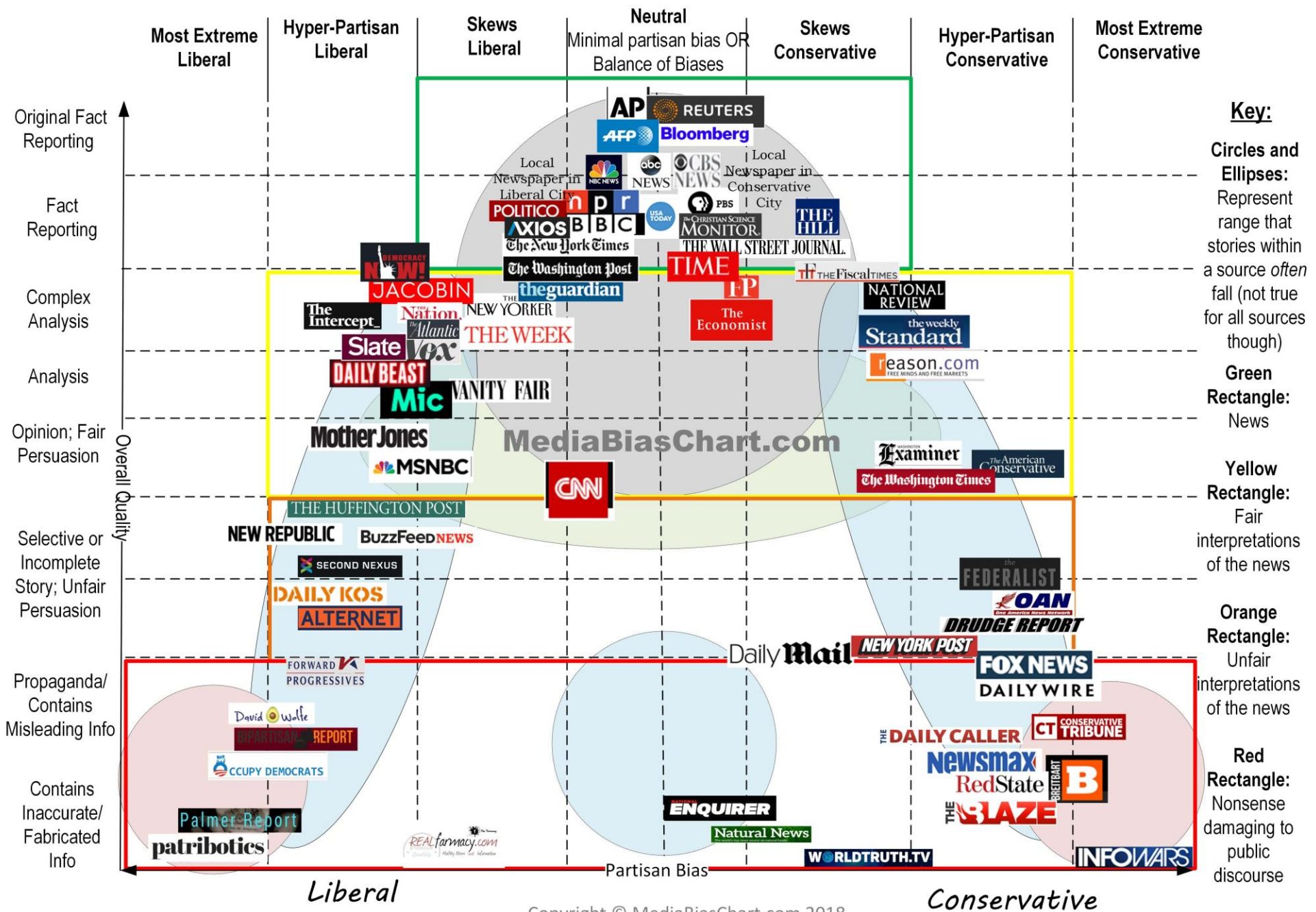
- **Accuracy**

- **Purpose**

4. Credible

- Who is the author?
 - Credentials?
 - Affiliations?
- Publisher? Source? Sponsor?
- Purpose?
 - Fact?
 - Opinion?
 - Propaganda?
- Intended audience?





What will your sources be?

Books

Journal Articles

Government publications

Articles – magazines, newspapers, on-line

Websites

People



Primary Sources vs Secondary Sources

Primary Sources	Secondary Sources
<p>These are original documents or original research.</p>	<p>These are works that synthesize, summarize, and/or interpret primary sources.</p>
<p><u>Examples</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diaries • Interviews • Speeches • Academic research – often printed in scholarly journals • Fiction (novels, poetry, short stories) 	<p><u>Examples</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encyclopedias • Histories • Reviews • Textbooks • Magazine articles • Biographies

Humanities

Sciences

Primary Sources Original = Primary = First	Secondary Sources Not original = Secondary = Not first
<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Original, first – hand account of an event or time period✓ Written or made during or close to the time of the event✓ Original creative writing or works of art <p>Primary sources are factual, not analysis or interpretation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Analyses and interprets primary sources, second – hand account of event✓ Interpretation of a creative work
<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Report of scientific discoveries✓ Results of experiments✓ Results of clinical trials✓ Political and social sciences research results <p>Primary sources are factual, not analysis or interpretation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Analyses and interprets research results, scientific discoveries

Humanities

Sciences

A Hierarchy of Credibility of Sources

(Some scholarly databases and encyclopedias are subject to multiple peer reviews)

High - Peer-reviewed (vetted or refereed)

Encyclopedias: established, "safe" scholarly knowledge

General encyclopedias: New Encyclopedia Britannica, World Book Encyclopedia

Specialized encyclopedias: Anchor Bible Dictionary, Encyclopedia of E-Collaboration

Scholarly journals, books, and .edu or .gov websites

Journals: American Ethnologist, Journal of Communication, Science Magazine, College and Research Libraries

.Edu or .gov websites: pgcc.edu, usa.gov, health.gov

Popularizing magazines: Scientific America, Psychology Today

A Hierarchy of Credibility of Sources

(Some scholarly databases and encyclopedias are subject to multiple peer reviews)

Mid - Editorially Reviewed

Trade and professional publications

Nation's Restaurant News, Publisher's Weekly, Advertising Age, Aviation Week and Space Technology, American Libraries

General Interest

Forbes, Time, Glamour, People Weekly, Reader's Digest

Sensational news

National Enquirer, Star, Sun, Globe

Low - Unreviewed

Governed wikis, including Wikipedia and some websites: good for topics in popular culture

Good: links to usually reliable sites: .gov, .edu, and some .org

Not Good: Billy-Bob, who has never studied much but thinks he knows a lot, can write and change Wikipedia articles

Many or most websites, blogs, and ungoverned wikis

Evaluating Informative Writing

- How is the information presented?
 - Easy to understand?
 - Organization?
 - Terms adequately defined?
- Author's thesis?
- Author's audience?
 - Appropriate word choice/format
- Information original research?
 - Problem identified?
 - Method clearly stated?
- Someone else's research?
 - Research used fairly and explained adequately?
- Statistics?
 - Accurate? Fairly interpreted?



Evaluating Persuasive Writing

1. Structure/Clarity

1. Does it identify a premise? (argument)
2. Is there sufficient evidence to support?
3. Is there a conclusion?
4. Does it make sense?
5. Is it vague or confusing?

2. Evidence

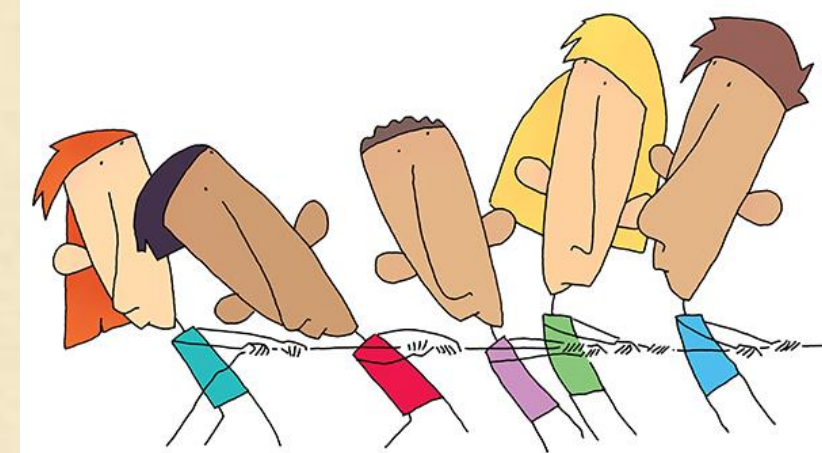
1. How credible is the evidence given? Sources? Credible?
2. Is the evidence incorporated into the argument?

3. Logic

1. Is the argument sound? Emotional?
2. Is there an obvious bias?

4. Evaluation

1. Is the argument clear with valid arguments?
2. Has the author addressed all sides of the argument?



Reading Questions

1. Is this a primary or secondary source?
2. Is this a credible source? Why?
3. What surprised you in the article?
4. What is the author's thesis?
5. What is the author's purpose?
6. Who is the author's intended audience?
7. Do you share the views of the student perspectives articulated at the end of the article? (126-128)