

Credibility of Sources

How can you tell if a source is going to be credible or reliable ?

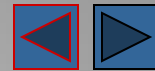


What is the source of the information being considered?

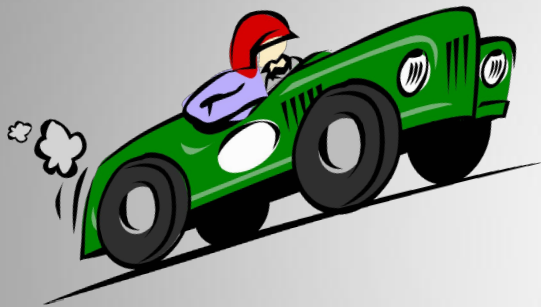
Publication

- Date - is the information current, or does it need to be current?
- Reputation of publication - is the source well known and trustworthy?
- Kind of publication - is it a scientific report, eye-witness account, a work of fiction?





CARS is an acronym for . . .



Credibility,
Accuracy,
Reasonableness,
and Support

CARS

Checklist for Information Quality

CARS

Credibility

- **Check the URL (.gov or .edu)**
 - **Check the sponsor (a univ or government or medical agency)**
 - **Can you identify the author?**
 - **Purpose (are they selling or informing or just talking?)**
-

CARS

Accuracy

- **Correctness**
 - **Up to date (for what it is)**
 - **Spelling**
 - **Grammar mistakes**
-

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Reasonableness

- **Tone (is it angry or whiny or professional?)**
 - **Bias (does it lean more toward one side?)**
 - **Logic (does it make sense?)**
-

CARS

Support

- **Sponsored**
 - **Cited (research evidence provided)**
 - **Contact information**
-

Author or Speaker



- Qualifications - is he an expert in his field?
 - Bias - is he one-sided in his point-of-view?
 - Values - what does the author value in regards to the topic?
 - Chance for personal gain - does the author stand to benefit from his position?
-

Credible or No?

'FRIENDS' TRAGEDY

Matt Perry relapses into **DRUG & BOOZE** nightmare

THE NATIONAL *America's Newspaper*
ENQUIRER
 FEBRUARY 15, 2009



JOHN KERRY'S SECRET LIFE EXPOSED

- Affairs with stars
- Drug abuse
- Plastic surgery

TRUMP'S NEW \$\$\$ WAR WITH EX-WIFE



Martha Drinking, Crying

JACK SURGICAL BEFORE

WOMAN MARRIES A SHARK



by JIM SPENCER
 "Zach's hot chick got Jesus' legs crossed in any 'I do' and after vows, but every day she looks like she's still in the hospital bed... so the night Andrea is married is a once-in-a-lifetime event!"

As all his friends gathered to witness the wedding, the bride was in a hospital bed. The groom was in a hospital bed. The bride was in a hospital bed. The groom was in a hospital bed.

"He's a lot better than any man!"

Sta OSCARS TOP GLAMOUR 2009

EXCLUSIVE Adnan

BRIT'S HAVING MY BABY!

- She hopes it's a girl!
- Mom & Dad horrified!
- Brit's revenge on Jamie Lynn

BRAD PROPOSES!

ILLO: DELIVERY ROOM DIVA!

Credible or No?

USA TODAY

powered by you and THE TENNESSEAN

USA TODAY
 NO. 1 IN THE USA . . . FIRST IN DAILY READERS

*"Any sufficiently advanced technology is indistinguishable from magic."
 — Arthur C. Clarke, scientist and author*

MONDAY, JUNE 29, 1998

MIT lab thrives 'out on a limb'
 Computer visionaries create what you can't imagine

John Maeda: Professor of Aesthetics & Computation predicts a seamless technology of art and science in the near future.

Gil Weinberg: Listens through his headset to the SQUEEZABLE Jelly Balls which respond with synthesized music and sounds when manipulated — either squeezed, pulled or lifted.

Art, science tango toward future

By M.J. Zuckerman
 USA TODAY

COVER STORY

CAMBRIDGE, Mass. — Within sight of the Charles River and venerable Fenway Park, there is a place drawing together some of the best minds of the information age to chase the future.

Along the way, they serve up groundbreaking technologies and elegant intellectual concepts, as well as some seemingly useless, though entertaining, contraptions.

The Massachusetts Institute of Technology Media Laboratory, which opened its doors in 1985, commands international recognition for "creating truly inspired magic. They have invented robots that "think" and the next generation of music synthesizers. They're developing smart furniture that can respond to a hand gesture and even smarter kitchen appliances, such as a refrigerator that knows when the milk is about to turn. There's money that can't be counterfeited and computerized sneakers that can transfer a digital business card from one wearer to another when they shake hands.

While some of this may sound frivolous — more toy than tech — they create the foundation for such Media Lab breakthroughs as quantum computing to overcome the current limits of silicon, personal health monitoring systems to provide early warning of illness and, of growing importance, new horizons in childhood education. And all are part of the lab's evolving goal: to expand the vision and ambition of

See **COVER STORY** next page ▶

How Reliable?

WIKIPEDIA

English

The Free Encyclopedia
1 731 000+ articles

Deutsch

Die freie Enzyklopädie
569 000+ Artikel

Français

L'encyclopédie libre
474 000+ articles

Polski

Wolna encyklopedia
367 000+ hasel

日本語

フリー百科事典
353 000+ 記事

Nederlands

De vrije encyclopedie
288 000+ artikelen

Italiano

L'enciclopedia libera
283 000+ voci

Português

A enciclopédia livre
251 000+ artigos



Español

La enciclopedia libre
222 000+ artículos

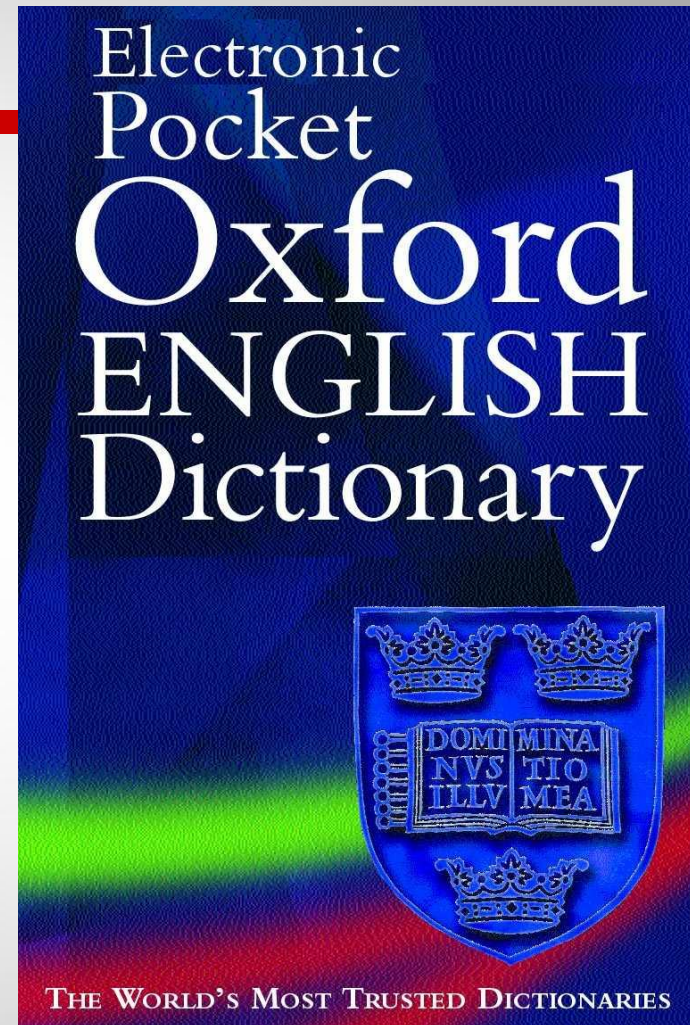
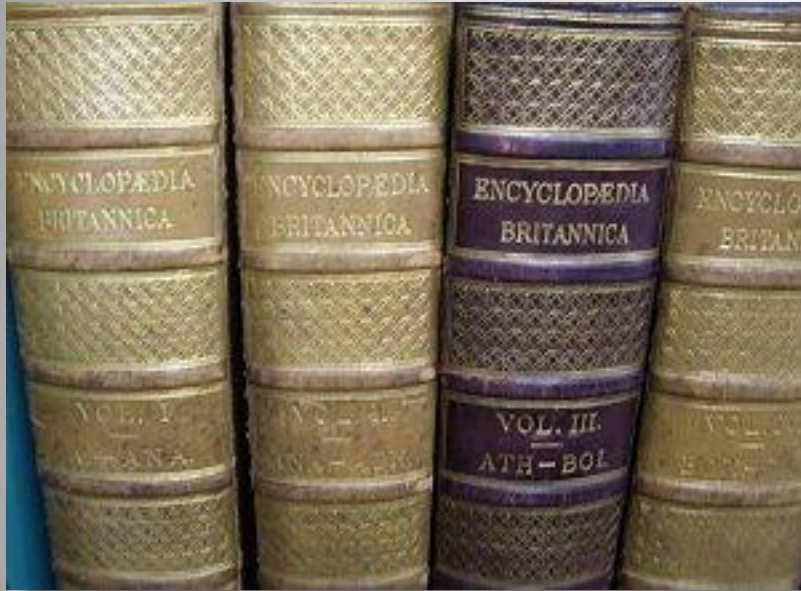
Svenska

Den fria encyklopedin
221 000+ artiklar

search • suche • rechercher • szukaj • 検索 • zoeken
ricerca • busca • buscar • sök • поиск • 搜索 • haku • søk



How Credible?



How Reliable?



Let's rank some sources!

- If you were looking for information on Hurricane Katrina which source would be the most reliable?

- A. victim blog
- B. novel
- C. newspaper report
- D. eyewitness account



If you were doing a report on Barack Obama, rank these sources from most reliability to least reliability.

- 1. A recent *Time* magazine article
- 2. An encyclopedia article dated 1/30/15
- 3. An article in the *National Enquirer*
- 4. A blog by Obama's campaign manager



Rank the following resources from greatest reliability to least reliability for an essay titled "War in Iraq."

- 1. Newspaper article "War in Iraq" by a war correspondent
- 2. Tabloid article "What They Don't Let Us Know"
- 3. Internet site on Iraq and the postwar period
- 4. Journal of a soldier serving in Iraq



Rank these sources from *most reliable* to *least reliable*.

- 1. Article in *The Tennessean*
- 2. Eyewitness account
- 3. Internet article
- 4. *National Enquirer Magazine*

2, 1, 3, 4



Rank these sources from *most reliable* to *least reliable*.

- 1. Internet website
- 2. Written diary of an eye-witness to an event
- 3. Newspaper article from *USA Today*
- 4. An article in a supermarket tabloid

