

Reliable Sources for Research

Online Resources for Credible Current Events and General Topics

www.time.com

www.nationalgeographic.com

www.wallstreetjournal.com

www.washingtonpost.com

www.newsweek.com

<https://www.britannica.com/>

What other online resources do you know of or could you find that are also good examples of containing credible information that you can trust?

Activity

Visit as many of these websites as you can and answer the following questions about what you notice. You may work independently, with a partner, or in a small group. Respond to these questions in complete sentences on your own paper.

You'll have a chance to share ideas and results in a class discussion after you finish!

- 1) What specific elements make these websites “credible” websites?

- 2) How can you tell that the articles on the websites are current?

- 3) Choose an article on any of those websites. It doesn't matter which one. Now, how can you tell that the author is an authority on the topic? Is there any information about the author's background or previous experience?

- 4) Is there a way to tell if you're reading an objective article that presents just the facts without any author's opinions?

- 5) Are there articles that are clearly labeled as “editorial” or “opinion” articles? Those articles (if you see any) are more about the writer's opinion on a particular topic and are not the same as simply reporting a news story and letting the reader decide and think for himself. It's OK to write an editorial or opinion piece for these websites as long as the reader can tell that they are, indeed, opinions. Do you see any of these types of articles in any of the websites? If so, explain where and what they are about.

- 6) Finally, use the following terms to discuss the topic of finding credible online sources with your partner or small group. Practice using these terms so that when you discuss as a class, you feel comfortable using them out loud with others in a large group!

relevant authority currency
accuracy purpose bias