

RESEARCH 1 2 ③

Evaluating Your Sources: The CRAAP Test

Provide a citation for the source you're evaluating:

Currency

When was the information published or posted? Has it been revised or updated?	
Is the information current or out of date for your topic? How do you decide?	

Relevance

How does the information relate to your topic?	
Is the information at an appropriate academic level? Who is the intended audience?	

Authority

What are the author's credentials/qualifications?	
Who is the publisher/source/sponsor? Is it a credible source?	

Accuracy

Is the information supported by evidence? Are there citations or a bibliography included?	
Has the information been reviewed or refereed by experts? How do you know?	
Can you verify the information with another reliable source?	

Purpose

Is the information fact or opinion?	
Does the point of view appear objective and impartial? If you can detect a bias, what is it?	
Is the author or publisher trying to sell you something or persuade you to agree with a point of view?	

Based on your answers to the above questions, this source is:

Highly Reliable Good Acceptable Borderline Unreliable

Why?

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Using Information Ethically

QUOTING: Generally, a quote does two things in your writing. The first is that it shows your reader which parts of your writing are your own and which are the work of others. The second is that it preserves the exact wording of the original, which is important when you want to showcase a turn of phrase or discuss the details of the writer's use of language.

WHICH OF THE FOLLOWING WOULD BE A GOOD QUOTE? [from *The Spirit Catches You and You Fall Down*]

① "A hospital social worker in San Francisco, accompanied by an interpreter, was sent by the public health department to visit a woman with tuberculosis who had refused to take her isoniazid tablets." (p. 264)

② "Kleinman, who has commented that the doctor cures the disease but the indigenous healer heals the illness, believes that conjoint treatment does more than promote trust between the doctor and the patient; because illness is so profoundly affected by psychosocial factors, it actually improves the outcome." (p. 266)

③ "Dwight Conquergood's philosophy of health care as a form of barter, rather than a one-sided relationship, ignores the fact that, for better or for worse, Western medicine *is* one-sided." (p. 276)

WHY?

PARAPHRASING: When paraphrasing, you are expressing the meaning of your source's original text using your own words. One key to paraphrasing well is to be familiar enough with the material to make your point without having to mimic the original. Read the whole thing, whether it's an article, book chapter, book, etc. Make an effort to internalize and understand it as you read. Only after you understand should you begin to think about paraphrasing. It's a bad idea to have the book/article open to the section you're paraphrasing and look at it while you're writing. Almost inevitably, you will mirror the original more than you should.

CITING: Citation styles such as MLA and APA are about more than formatting citations in your bibliography. They give your reader the information they need to connect the selections you use with the original source you consulted. This requires **both a citation** in the works cited at the end of your paper **and an in-text notation** in the body of the paper.

Circle the pieces of information you need to know about a **BOOK** in order to cite it:

Author(s)	Periodical title
Title	ISBN
Article title	Call number
Publisher	Page number(s)
Date	Volume/number
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Circle the pieces of information you need to know about an **ARTICLE** in order to cite it:

Author(s)	Periodical title
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Article title	Call number
Publisher	Page number(s)
Date	Volume/number
Chapter number	City of publication

PLAGIARISM: Whether you quote or paraphrase, you must cite the sources of your information. Failure to do so is plagiarism, which is an issue of ethics and academic honesty and is a serious violation of both the written and unwritten codes of conduct in the College community. When you plagiarize, you are presenting someone else's ideas and/or work - whether textual, visual, audible, or a combination - as your own. Even when it's unintentional, it can damage your credibility with classmates and faculty and jeopardize your status at the College. The solution is to make sure that you understand what plagiarism is and what you can do to avoid it.

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