

The Five “A” Approach to Evaluating Electronic Resources

Competency	Minimal	Satisfactory	Advanced
Authorship: The student can identify the author and assess the author’s credentials on the subject.	The student can identify the author of the web page.	The student can identify the author and assess the author’s credentials on the subject.	The student can identify the author, assess the author’s credentials on the subject, and speak to the author’s reputation in the field.
Authority: The student can identify the agency, organization, or academic institution that maintains the web site.	The student can identify the title of the document and the URL at which the document is found.	The student can identify the agency, organization, or academic institution that maintains the web site.	The student can identify the agency, organization, or academic institution that maintains the web site, and speak to its reputation in the field.
Age: The student can identify the publication and/or revision date.	The student can only identify a vague era associated with the publication and/or revision date.	The student can identify the year of publication and/or revision.	The student can identify the precise publication and/or revision date.
Aim: The student can identify any particular goals, objectives, or biases associated with the site.	The student can identify an objective associated with the site.	The student can identify the goals, objectives, and/or biases associated with the site.	The student can identify the goals, objectives, and/or biases associated with the site, and appreciates the site’s perspective in the overall context of the issues being examined.
Authenticity: The student can identify the sources of information utilized in the creation of the web site.	The student has not identified the specific sources of information utilized in the creation of the web site, but rather sees the site as its own source of information.	The student can vaguely identify the sources of information utilized in the creation of the web site.	The student can identify the sources of information utilized in the creation of the web site. This may include a formal or informal bibliography and/or citations that can be used for comparing or verifying data and other information.