

8th Grade Speech Source Evaluation Worksheet

Directions: You are required to have at least six sources in researching your 8th Grade Speech topic. You must have three sources that support your opinion and three sources that support a different conclusion. You must demonstrate that ALL SIX SOURCES are reliable and objective, OR you must qualify any conclusions you draw, describing the nature of the source. Use these next three days to begin identifying sources and track them on this worksheet. All sources will be due in late January 2016.

Source --title, type (mag, book, newspaper, etc), URL if web): _____

If it is a website, what is the ending to the domain of the address? (ex. .org, .edu., .com) _____

**Endings like .org, .edu, .gov are usually reliable. If there is a ~ in the address it is usually someone's personal website and not necessarily reliable. .coms are "commercial" sites and may be advertisements or have a stake in one position or another (not objective)*

2. Who is the person or organization responsible for the site? _____

3. How do you know this person/organization is an authority (qualified to write on this topic)? *Check the "about this site" link or find information about the organization or contributors

4. What is the date of copyright or the last update/ revision? _____

**If the site is about current events or quickly changing topics, it should be relatively current*

5. Is there a bibliography, works cited or list of sources? List them: _____

6. Is the site free of opinion? If opinions are stated, are both sides of the issue equally represented? State your position and support it with examples from the site: _____

7. In what ways is information in this source consistent with or in contrast with others sources you have found on your topic? You may have to come back later and complete this one. BE SPECIFIC!!

8. Does the site look professional? (no spelling or grammar errors, few or no broken links) _____

9. What makes the site easy to navigate and understand? Is it written at an appropriate reading level for you?

10: Based on your answers, do you feel this site is a reliable site for research? Yes No