Evaluate information using the CRAP Test

CRAP stands for **C**urrency, **R**eliability, **A**uthority and **P**urpose / **P**oint of View. The CRAP Test is a helpful tool to use when deciding if a source is "good," meaning relevant and credible for your needs. This worksheet explicitly guides you through the evaluation criteria of The CRAP Test. The goal of this practice exercise is so that IRL (in real life), you can run through these evaluative steps more automatically, quickly, and confidently.

How to use this worksheet

1. *Get familiar.* Review each CRAP criteria statement (column 1).
2. *Define good*. Relevant to each CRAP criteria statement, briefly describe *your* expectations of "good" information in the context of your current information need (column 2).
3. *Judge each criteria*. Examine your information source. For each CRAP criteria statement, decide if the information source meets *your* expectations for "good." Use critical judgement or do some quick Googling to help you make your decision. Mark Agree or Disagree for each criteria (column 3). (If you don't know or can't find information about your source related to a CRAP criteria statement, mark Disagree.)
4. *Judge the overall source.* Are there more checkmarks in the Agree column (good) or Disagree column (crap)? As a whole, does the source meet enough of your expectations related to CRAP that you feel confident using and trusting this information?

Column 1: CRAP Criteria statements.	**Column 2:** For my current information need(s), this is what "good" information looks like to me.	**Column 3:** "Good"?	
		Agree	Disagree
Currency			
The information is current enough for my topic or assignment.			
The information includes the date when it was published or last updated.			
Reliability			
The information cites its sources, formally (Works Cited or References) or informally.			
The information was reviewed by experts or people with relevant experience, and the review process is transparent.			
The information does not have characteristics of "fake news."			

The information is accurate based on my existing knowledge of the subject.			

Authority

The creator is identifiable and has experience and / or credentials relevant to the subject.			
The creator is affiliated with a reputable organization.			
The sponsor / publisher of this information is identifiable and transparent (e.g., shares "About Us" information).			

Purpose / Point of View

The information is relevant to my need(s) and helps me learn about my topic.			
The information is factual, and / or opinions are fact-based.			
The information is transparent about biases (e.g., conflicts of interest, sponsors, and viewpoints and experiences represented or omitted).			
The information is transparent about its purpose (e.g., to entertain, educate, persuade, activate emotion, sell, etc.).			
This information is intended for an audience relevant to me and my information needs.			

Final Judgment

Circle or highlight one. Based on my CRAP Test review, this information source is: **GOOD**   **CRAP**