Credible Sources

To make your own editable copy of this document:

- 1. Ensure you're signed in with a Google account
- 2. Go to File > Make a copy

Take a look at the slide deck for these activities.

You can also find out about the journal it is published in by searching online. You will be able to find out whether the journal is peer-reviewed and what its scope and purpose is.

Activity 1: Where would you look to find out more on a breaking news story?

Add any news source you might use to the whiteboard in the session. There's no right or wrong answers.

Activity 2: Evaluating websites. Judging objectivity

Think about the purpose of a website and whether it is objective enough as evidence for academic work. Have a look at a couple of the articles below and answer the questions even further below. Again, try not to take too long answering the questions.

→ Group 1
Site: NRDC

Article: Banishing the climate change blues

→ Group 2

Site: NASA Earth Observatory

Article: World of Change: Global Temperatures

→ Group 3

Site: NewsThump

Article: Pope urges mankind to address climate change

→ Group 4

Site: **BBC News**

Article: Government told to prepare for 2C warming by 2050



Look at clues about the source (the website) first

LOOK GE CIGO	s about the source (the website) mist
1) Author/pu	blisher
a) Who	o is responsible? (It could be an individual or an institution)
tha	n you find out more about them by navigating to parts of their site t tell you about them/their authors? Do they have any vested erests that may make them less objective?
c) Wh	o is the audience? What does that tell you about any potential bias?
Now skim-re	ead the article
2) Opposing \	Viewpoints
	es the author recognize a viewpoint that opposes their own? If so, at is it?
b) Is ti	hat viewpoint presented objectively or emotionally?
c) List	some quotations to support your claim.



3) [Lar	ายเ	ua	ge

a) Does the author present their argument in extreme language? Do they write to appeal to emotions? If so, provide some examples.

b) Does the author use value-laden terms that lend a negative impression (as in 'illegal aliens' versus 'undocumented workers')? If so, provide some examples.

4) Overall, what would you say about the objectivity of this document?

Rating from 1 to 10 can help.



Activity 3: Let's edit Wikipedia!

Here's some useful links for getting started with editing Wikipedia:

Wikipedia advice

A primer for newcomers

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:A_primer_for_newcomers

Identifying reliable sources

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Identifying_reliable_sources

Useful tools

Wikipedia Sandbox

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Draft:Sandbox

Citation Hunt

https://tools.wmflabs.org/citationhunt/

Orphaned articles

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Category:All_orphaned_articles

