# Web Resources Evaluation Checklist

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of website:</th>
<th>Comments</th>
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**What?**  
- What is the focus of the site?  
- Is it relevant to your needs?  
- Is the level appropriate? (too specialised/detailed or too simple/general?)  
- How limited is the coverage of the topic?  
- Are there appropriate links to relevant information?

**Who?**  
- Is there a named author?  
- Is the author a recognised authority in the subject area?  
- What are the author’s credentials?  
- Is the website hosted/published by an organisation?  
- Is the publisher a recognised and reputable organisation?  
- Are there contact details for the author/publisher?  
- What clues are in the URL suffix? (.com/.co.uk, .ac/.edu, .gov.uk, .org.uk)

**Why?**  
- Who are the intended audience? (academic, general public, professionals?)  
- What is the intended purpose of the source? (inform, educate, argue, promote?)  
- Does the author make it clear what viewpoint is being expressed? Beware of opinion presented as fact.  
- Has the website or research been sponsored? Sponsors may have a vested interest in what is published.  
- Is there a hidden bias?

**When?**  
- How current is the information? Is there a publication date?  
- When was the website updated?  
- Are all the links still active? (indication that the website is regularly maintained)  
- Is the information obsolete/ has it been superseded?

**How?**  
- Is the information clearly presented?  
- Is the website easy to navigate with clear menus, tabs, a search facility etc.?  
- Is the use of grammar, language and punctuation correct and appropriate?  
- Are there lots of pop-ups, adverts and inappropriate links?

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