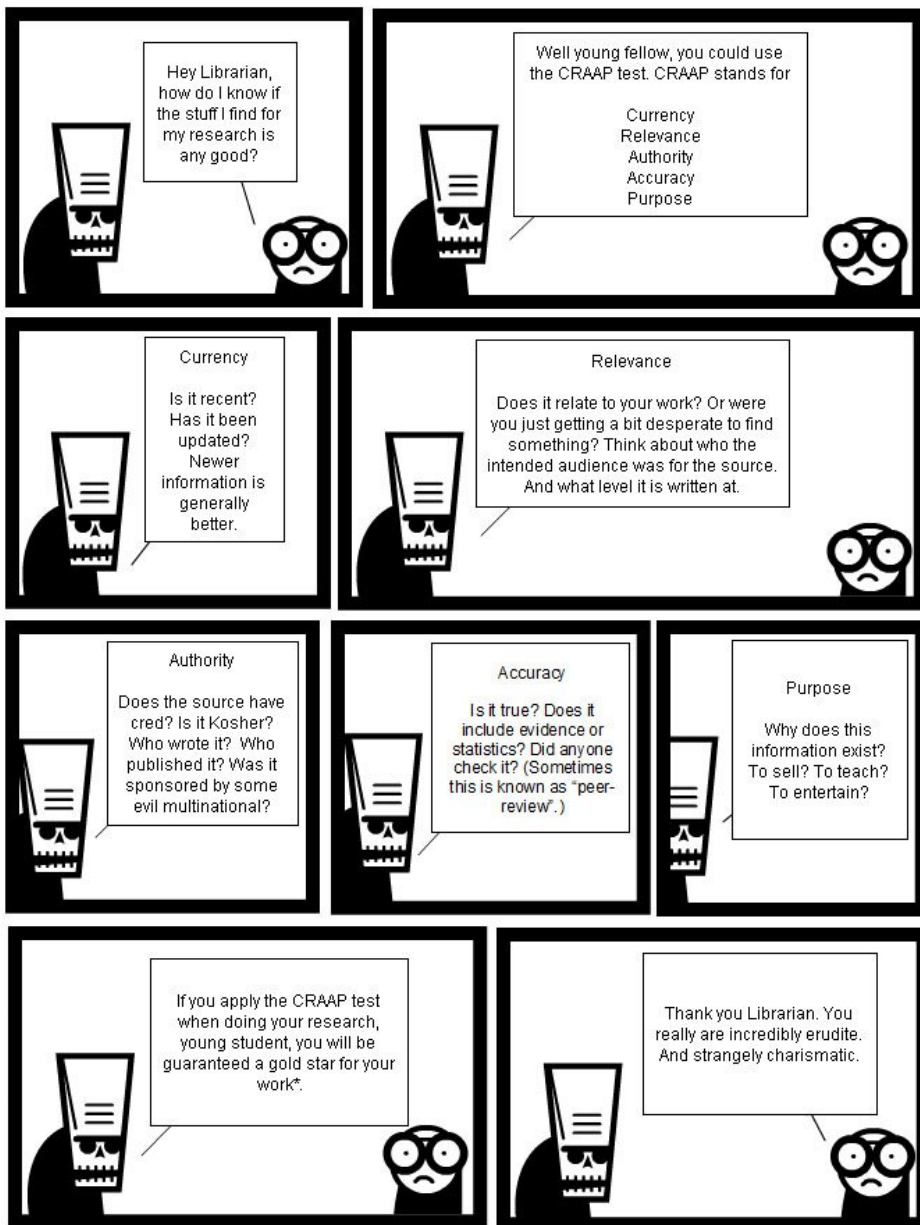


The CRAAP test

How to think critically about the stuff you find when doing research.



*Please note, gold stars may or may not exist. Always read the small print.

Simon Lyes 2013

Rethinking the CRAAP test

(see: <http://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/after-trump-librarians-develop-new-fact-checking-system-us-58c071d3e4b0ed7182699786?>)

From ALA, Feb 23, 2017:

<http://www.programminglibrarian.org/articles/fake-news-library-round>

Includes libguides, links to resources and further reading

C

Currency

The timeliness of the information

When was the information published or posted?
Has the information been revised or updated?
Does your topic require current information, or will older sources work as well?
Are the links functional?

R

Relevance

The importance of the information for your needs

Does the information relate to your topic or answer your question?
Who is the intended audience?
Is the information at an appropriate level (i.e. not too elementary or advanced for your needs)?
Have you looked at a variety of sources before determining this is one you will use?
Would you be comfortable citing this source in your research paper?

A

Authority

The source of the information

Who is the author/publisher/source/sponsor?
What are the author's credentials or organizational affiliations?
Is the author qualified to write on the topic?
Is there contact information, such as a publisher or email address?
Does the URL reveal anything about the author or source?
examples: .com .edu .gov .org .net

A

Accuracy

The reliability, truthfulness and correctness of the content

Where does the information come from?
Is the information supported by evidence?
Has the information been reviewed or refereed?
Can you verify any of the information in another source or from personal knowledge?
Does the language or tone seem unbiased and free of emotion?
Are there spelling, grammar or typographical errors?

P

Purpose

The reason the information exists

What is the purpose of the information? Is it to inform, teach, sell, entertain or persuade?
Do the authors/sponsors make their intentions or purpose clear?
Is the information fact, opinion or propaganda?
Does the point of view appear objective and impartial?
Are there political, ideological, cultural, religious, institutional or personal biases?

How can I tell if
this information is
useful and
trustworthy?

CRAAP
TEST IT!

Currency

When was it created?

Relevance

Is it on my topic?

Authority

Is the creator an expert?

Appropriate

Can I comprehend the words?

Purpose

Why was it created?