Web Site Analysis

Step 1: Check Yes if statement applies and No/Not Sure if statement does not apply.

Criteria 1: Scope
A. Many different aspects of the topic are presented. Yes____ No____
B. Each aspect is presented in depth. Yes____ No____

Criteria 2: Accuracy
A. The information is consistent with other resources on the topic. Yes____ No____
B. The information is properly formatted. Yes____ No____
C. The information is based on scientific data. Yes____ No____
D. The site includes a disclaimer. Yes____ No____

Criteria 3: Authority
A. The author(s)/organization(s) supplying information are identified. Yes____ No____
B. The author(s)/organization(s) are recognized in the field. Yes____ No____
C. The credentials of the author(s) are identified. Yes____ No____
D. The author(s) are writing in their discipline. Yes____ No____

Criteria 4: Currency
A. The information presented is up-to-date. Yes____ No____
B. The information builds on previous knowledge. Yes____ No____

Criteria 5: Purpose
A. The purpose of the site is identified. Yes____ No____
B. The information is appropriate for the intended purpose. Yes____ No____
C. The intended audience is specified. Yes____ No____
D. The source funding the site is identified. Yes____ No____

Step 2: Sum the Yes responses from Criteria 1-5 above.
C1____ + C2____ + C3____ + C4____ + C5____ = Total “Yes” ______

Step 3: Rate the site by comprehensiveness of information.
____13-16 “Yes” = Credible site: Convincing evidence exists
____7-12 “Yes” = Ambivalent site: Inconclusive evidence exists
____0-6 “Yes” = “Red flag” site: Insufficient evidence exists
Step 4: Check Yes if statement applies and No/Not Sure if statement does not apply.

Criteria 6: Organization, Structure, & Design

A. The information presented in the site is well organized. Yes____ No____
B. The terminology used is meaningful to the subject area. Yes____ No____
C. The site consists of a table of contents or provides organizational structure to easily access content. Yes____ No____
D. The site contains specific links to data referenced. Yes____ No____
E. The site contains internal search engines. Yes____ No____
F. The document has a distinguishable header and footer. Yes____ No____
G. The major headings and subheadings are identifiable. Yes____ No____
H. The loading time for the site is reasonable. Yes____ No____
I. The site’s creation is clearly displayed. Yes____ No____
J. The date of the last revision is clearly displayed. Yes____ No____
K. The reading level and material presented is appropriate for the intended audience. Yes____ No____

Tally Criteria 6: Yes_____ No_____ totals

Step 5: Rate the site by “net appeal.”

_____ 6-11 “Yes” = Accommodating site
_____ 0-5 “Yes” = Hindering site

Step 6: Personal Comments: Now compare this source to other sources you have on this topic. (Prepare a typed summary and analysis, minimum 2 pages in length. You are to turn in both the “Web Site Analysis” form filled in and your typed paper answering “Step 6” on the due date received in class.)