

Identifying Credible Websites

Instructions:

1. Look up each of the three websites below.
2. Fill in the chart for each website.
3. Answer the three questions following the chart.

Website #1:

<http://www.nature.com.proxy1.cl.msu.edu.proxy2.cl.msu.edu/nature/journal/v454/n7205/full/454692a.html>

Website #2: <http://www.livescience.com/5230-performance-enhancement-common-sports.html>

Website #3: <http://www.tcnwe.org/history-bodybuilding.htm>

Criteria	Web site #1	Web site #2	Web site #3
Appearance: How does the page look? Do the graphics, layout, etc. appear professional?			
Errors: Are there grammatical or spelling errors?			
Audience: Who do you think this site is written for?			
Language: Is the language more formal or more casual?			
Citations: Does the site indicate where its information came from? Is there a bibliography?			
Authorship: What can you tell about the author of the site or article?			
Publisher: Can you tell who published the site's information?			
URL: What information can you tell from the URL?			
Currency: How up-to-date is this information? Is there a date listed?			
Bias: Is there an agenda or point of view that this site is trying to promote?			

Questions:

1. Which of these Web sites do you think is the most credible, and why?

2. Which site do you think is the least credible, and why?

3. Do you think that any of these sites would be useful for a research project? Why or why not?