

Judging Quality Web Links

Because online authors earn credibility with their readers by including links to external sources that support their positions and verify the facts that they've included in their arguments, it is important for you to identify several statements in the piece that you are writing that would make for logical places to include links. It is also important to evaluate the overall quality of the sources that you intend to link to. This handout will guide you through that process:

Use these columns to identify places for links		Use this rubric to rate the quality of the resources that you are linking to		
Statement where you'd like to insert a link to evidence	Link address: (use http://www.snipurl.com to shorten this link).	Poor Resources	Average Resources	High Quality Resources
		<input type="checkbox"/> Don't include links to any external sources. <input type="checkbox"/> Are full of emotionally loaded words and phrases. <input type="checkbox"/> Include statements that don't make sense. <input type="checkbox"/> Are out of date. <input type="checkbox"/> Come from a source—an individual, group or business involved in this issue—who may be biased.	<input type="checkbox"/> Include a handful of reliable links. <input type="checkbox"/> Aren't overly biased, although it is easy to tell how the author feels about this issue. <input type="checkbox"/> Share current information that can be verified, but fail to provide multiple viewpoints. <input type="checkbox"/> Include contact information for the author.	<input type="checkbox"/> Come from a source—university, well-known news source, business or expert—that you can trust. <input type="checkbox"/> Share current information that can be verified through embedded links. <input type="checkbox"/> Provide multiple viewpoints about the issue being studied. <input type="checkbox"/> Include contact information for the author.
		<input type="checkbox"/> Don't include links to any external sources. <input type="checkbox"/> Are full of emotionally loaded words and phrases. <input type="checkbox"/> Include statements that don't make sense. <input type="checkbox"/> Are out of date. <input type="checkbox"/> Come from a source—an individual, group or business involved in this issue—who may be biased.	<input type="checkbox"/> Include a handful of reliable links. <input type="checkbox"/> Aren't overly biased, although it is easy to tell how the author feels about this issue. <input type="checkbox"/> Share current information that can be verified, but fail to provide multiple viewpoints. <input type="checkbox"/> Include contact information for the author.	<input type="checkbox"/> Come from a source—university, well-known news source, business or expert—that you can trust. <input type="checkbox"/> Share current information that can be verified through embedded links. <input type="checkbox"/> Provide multiple viewpoints about the issue being studied. <input type="checkbox"/> Include contact information for the author.
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