

Evaluating Sources for Bias

When conducting research about a topic, it's important to consider whether a source you are thinking about using might have a bias about the topic, and what kind of bias they might have. A bias is an opinion that is overly in favor of or against something in a way that is prejudiced, close-minded, or unfair. While it may not be possible to determine for sure whether or not information you have found comes from a biased source, there are some clues.



DIRECTIONS: As you conduct your research, for each source of information that you identify, ask and answer (if possible) the following questions. You may need to do some background research or fact-checking to get the answers.

Source: _____

Author: _____

Who owns/produces the source?

What kinds of products or services advertise in the source?

Does the content have a political slant?

Does the content present both sides of the argument?

Does the author use strong language or hyperbole?

Is the argument supported with evidence?

Does the author cite the sources of this evidence?