Evaluating Web Sites

Authority
✓ Who is the author of the website? Is a person or organization readily identifiable?
✓ Is contact information for the author or organization given?
✓ Are credentials for the author given? Is this person knowledgeable on the subject?
✓ Look at the URL, what domain is the website coming from:
  ▪ .com - commercial entity
  ▪ .edu - educational institution
  ▪ .net - network provider
  ▪ .gov - government agency
  ▪ .org - miscellaneous, typically a not-for-profit agency or professional organization

Currency
✓ Is there a date on the website when it was last updated and/or created?
✓ Does the information seem to be current or out of date?

Content
✓ Does the information seem to be accurate? Are references given to reputable sources to back up the information?
✓ Can the information be validated by other known sources?
✓ Do the links on the website lead to other current, accurate and authoritative websites? Or do the links lead to dead-ends?
✓ What is the purpose of the website: to inform, entertain, or sell a product?
✓ Are any biases the author might have apparent in the content?