



## Evaluate Sources and Information

Directions: Read each question carefully and choose the best answer.

1. A friend forwards you an email asking you to write to your senator to support a U.S. Senate bill that is before Congress. You are interested in the topic, but do not know much about the particular Senate bill. What would you do to determine the accuracy of this email before sending a letter to your senator?

- (A) Ask your friend
- (B) Review the bill at the U.S. Government Printing Office site
- (C) Use a general search engine to research the bill

2. You have been assigned a two page paper to discuss recent political activity in the Middle East. In which source below would you find the most current information?

- (A) An online newspaper index
- (B) An online encyclopedia
- (C) A general search engine
- (D) An online edition of a book on the Middle East

3. Identify the fact that is not supported by the following paragraph

One of the several reasons behind the obesity crisis has been the development of suburban America and the urban sprawl trend. As suburbs began to expand in the 1980's, automobile dependence became pronounced. People in suburbs no longer walk to get a loaf of bread and their children no longer walk to school. This trend toward dependence on automobiles and the resulting impact on the obesity crisis is demonstrated in a study done by Reid Ewing, a research professor at the National Center for Smart Growth at the University of Maryland. He surveyed people living in both the most populated counties in the United States and the least populated. He found that the residents of sprawling Geauga County in Ohio were an average of 6.3 lbs. heavier than the residents of crowded Manhattan County in New York.

- (A) Dependence on cars became pronounced in the 1980's.
- (B) People who live in Geauga County, Ohio, are 6.3 lbs. heavier than people who live in Manhattan County, New York.
- (C) People who live in suburbs do not walk anywhere.
- (D) Urban sprawl is one of several causes behind the rising obesity rate.

4. Often the book title will alert the researcher to bias. Based on the following book title, indicate the likelihood of bias in the book.

*Giving up on Democracy: Why Term Limits are Bad for America*

- (A) Book is most likely biased.
- (B) Book is most likely unbiased.

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*A Framework for Assessing Effects of the Food System*

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6. You receive an e-mail describing a nonprofit agency that offers cleaning services to women who have cancer. You have a friend who would benefit from this free service. Which of the following sources would you use to verify the reliability of this offer?

- (A) Consumer protection website
- (B) A newspaper article about the agency found in a database
- (C) Any of these
- (D) Social media

7. Compare the following two paragraphs, then identify which author discusses the statement below.

Author 1: “Although many scientists who worked to create this weapon and many of the military who would have to use it opposed its use to some degree, the general public backed Truman in his decision to call for unconditional surrender. In a June 10<sup>th</sup> Gallup Poll, 82% of Americans surveyed stated that the Japanese were a more heartless country than the Germans (18%). Many felt that destroying one of Japan’s cities with this new weapon would simply be retaliation for the devastating attack of Pearl Harbor which brought the United States into the war in December of 1941. With only 20% of Americans surveyed believing that the war would end by the end of 1945, the idea that a single weapon would bring a quick and definite end to the war in Japan also confirmed the belief held by Truman and his Cabinet that the atomic bomb should be used.”

Author 2: “During World War II, President Truman had to make many difficult decisions regarding military matters, including, most importantly, the decision to utilize the new atomic bomb. In order to make these decisions, he looked to military authorities, his cabinet members, scientists and the views of the American public. Most of the American public, 80%, believed that the war would not end within the year 1945. Despite the objections of others, Truman felt he had the firm backing of the general United States population and his Cabinet; he believed that the use of the atomic bomb would be justified in order to end the war quickly.”

Which author discusses this statement: “More Americans thought that the Japanese were more heartless than the Germans as of June 10, 1945.”?

- Ⓐ Author 1
  - Ⓑ Author 2
  - Ⓒ Both Author 1 and 2
  - Ⓓ Neither Author 1 and 2
8. Which sentence most strongly supports the statement “Small changes that people make in their lives can have an impact on the fight against obesity?”
- Ⓐ Studies show that people who walk often can reduce their weight.
  - Ⓑ I think that people who want to lose weight need to exercise by walking a minimum of thirty minutes 5 times a week.
  - Ⓒ A 1995 study demonstrated that placing a sign between a flight of stairs and an escalator stating “Stay Healthy, Save Time, Use the Stairs,” increased stair use from 8% to 16%.
  - Ⓓ It is easy to lose weight if you join an exercise club and do what a trainer tells you.

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Which author discusses this statement: "The majority of Americans believed that the war would not end within the year 1945."?

- (A) Author 1
  - (B) Author 2
  - (C) Both Author 1 and 2
  - (D) Neither Author 1 and 2
10. A team of scientists claim they have discovered a human ancestor that lived 3.3 to 3.5 million years ago in Ethiopia. Someone updated the Wikipedia page about Australopithecus (extinct genus of hominids). What organization would be most likely to write the most accurate account of this claim?
- (A) A member of the discovery team.
  - (B) The National Science Foundation
  - (C) A national news service like the Associated Press
  - (D) The Ethiopian government news service



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1. B
2. A
3. C
4. A
5. B
6. C
7. A
8. C
9. C
10. A