Topic 8 Worksheet 2

Evaluating research sources

Task

1. Complete the following checklist for one (1) Facebook profile and one (1) LinkedIn profile.
2. Note the answer to **at least two (2) questions** in each section.
3. Then evaluate the answers click the appropriate box to indicate if you think the answer is good, questionable or unknown. Determine the 'Good'. 'Questionable' and 'Unknown' **totals** and enter them into the table.

**Facebook profile analysis**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Answer** | **Good** | **Questionable** | **Unknown** |
| **Currency** |  |  |  |  |
| How recent is the information? |  |[ ] [ ] [ ]
| When was the website last updated? |  |[ ] [ ] [ ]
| Does your topic require it be more current? |  |[ ] [ ] [ ]
| **Reliability** |  |  |  |  |
| Does it appear to be someone's opinion? |  |[ ] [ ] [ ]
| Does the author cite sources or provide links to references? |  |[ ] [ ] [ ]
| What kind of information is included on the site? |  |[ ] [ ] [ ]
| **Authority** |  |  |  |  |
| Who is the author? Is it a person or an organization? |  |[ ] [ ] [ ]
| What are their credentials (education/experience) or mission if an organisation? |  |[ ] [ ] [ ]
| Are they members of related professional organizations? |  |[ ] [ ] [ ]
| Have they published books, written articles, been profiled as an expert? |  |[ ] [ ] [ ]
| Do they accept advertising on their website? |  |[ ] [ ] [ ]
| **Accuracy** |  |  |  |  |
| Where does the information come from? |  |[ ] [ ] [ ]
| Is the information supported by evidence? |  |[ ] [ ] [ ]
| Has the information been reviewed or refereed?  |  |[ ] [ ] [ ]
| Can you verify any of the information in another source or from personal knowledge?  |  |[ ] [ ] [ ]
| Does the language or tone seem biased and free of emotion?  |  |[ ] [ ] [ ]
| Are there spelling, grammar, or other typographical errors? |  |[ ] [ ] [ ]
| **Purpose/Point of View** |  |  |  |  |
| Is this fact or opinion? |  |[ ] [ ] [ ]
| Is it biased? |  |[ ] [ ] [ ]
| Is the author trying to sell you something? Did the search engine direct you to that page so you would see the advertising? |  |[ ] [ ] [ ]
| **Total Xs** |  |  |  |  |

Adapted from loex2008collaborate/The Crap Test

**LinkedIn profile analysis**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Answer** | **Good** | **Questionable** | **Unknown** |
| **Currency** |  |  |  |  |
| How recent is the information? |  |[ ] [ ] [ ]
| When was the website last updated? |  |[ ] [ ] [ ]
| Does your topic require it be more current? |  |[ ] [ ] [ ]
| **Reliability** |  |  |  |  |
| Does it appear to be someone's opinion? |  |[ ] [ ] [ ]
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| What are their credentials (education/experience) or mission if an organisation? |  |[ ] [ ] [ ]
| Are they members of related professional organizations? |  |[ ] [ ] [ ]
| Have they published books, written articles, been profiled as an expert? |  |[ ] [ ] [ ]
| Do they accept advertising on their website? |  |[ ] [ ] [ ]
| **Accuracy** |  |  |  |  |
| Where does the information come from? |  |[ ] [ ] [ ]
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| Can you verify any of the information in another source or from personal knowledge?  |  |[ ] [ ] [ ]
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| Are there spelling, grammar, or other typographical errors? |  |[ ] [ ] [ ]

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Purpose/Point of View** |  |  |  |  |
| Is this fact or opinion? |  |[ ] [ ] [ ]
| Is it biased? |  |[ ] [ ] [ ]
| Is the author trying to sell you something? Did the search engine direct you to that page so you would see the advertising? |  |[ ] [ ] [ ]
| **Total Xs** |  |  |  |  |

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