



State of



**WIKIPEDIA**  
*The Free Encyclopedia*



**Finding Reliable Websites is as Easy as...**



**A - T A C O**

# **Authority**

**What makes the author  
qualified to present  
information on this topic?  
Can you determine who the  
author is?**



# How to check authority

- Check the “About” section of the website
- If an author is listed, Google him or her to determine education background and other factors that contribute to the author’s knowledge on the topic.
- If no author is listed, locate the publisher or entity who created the site. Google it to determine the nature of the organization.  
Do a link search.
- Go to [www.alexa.com](http://www.alexa.com) and enter the web address in the search field. You will be provided with all sorts of info about the site and who uses the site.

# **Timeliness**

**Is the site kept up-to-date?  
Is it modified frequently  
enough to keep up with  
new developments in the  
field?**



# How to check timeliness

- Examine the top, bottom, and sides of the page for the date it was last updated
- If there is no last updated date, look for a copyright date
- If the page you are using is part of a larger website, go to the home page and look for a date.
- Go to <http://who.is> and enter the web address of your site, then examine the results for the publication information.

# Accuracy

**Does the information on the site fit with what you have learned elsewhere?  
Are conventions correct?  
Is it well-written and clear?**



# How to check accuracy

- Use your prior knowledge—does the information in the site match with what you already know?
- Compare the information with that of other sources—spot check names and dates, for example.

# Coverage

**Does the site go into  
enough depth to provide a  
clear understanding of the  
topic in its many forms?  
Does it cover the  
information you need?**



# **Objectivity**

**Does the site present multiple perspectives on the topic?**

**Who is its sponsor and what goals might the sponsor have?**

**What kind of advertising is present?**



**Authority**

**Timeliness**

**Accuracy**

**Coverage**

**Objectivity**



**Scan this QR code with your iPad using I-Nigma:**



Your teacher has asked you to research the history of robotics.  
Will you use this site? Why or why not?  
(use A-TACO to support your answer)



**Evaluate the 2 sites below.**

**Would you use either, both, or neither of the sites for an assigned research project? Why or why not? Use A-TACO to explain your answer.**



# Prove you can use it!

<b>A</b>	
<b>T</b>	
<b>A</b>	
<b>C</b>	
<b>O</b>	

1. Find 2 excellent websites to use for your research on a successful person.
2. Create a document (with a correct MLA heading) in which you explain each of the elements of A-TACO in detail for each of the 2 websites you select (use the table above as a guide).
3. Include the name of the website and the URL
4. Write a sentence or two explaining why you will use each of the sources.
5. Email your finished document to the following address

**summithslibrary@gmail.com**