



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.alexacom.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.

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

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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!

A	
T	
A	
C	
O	

1. Find two excellent websites to use for your Shakespeare research
2. Write out an A-TACO analysis for each source—this can be rough, just make sure you are thorough.
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.

You will use this information in the next step of the research process.