**WHAT ARE ALL THESE SOURCES FOR, ANYWAY?**

“The Agony of Research”

*Getting Started On Evaluating information*

Use this worksheet to keep track of the sources you find:

1. For each source, write down the title and the name of the publication (if applicable) .
2. Identify the type of source it is.
3. Evaluate the information need it predominantly fulfills and whether it is scholarly or not.
4. Determine the source attribute and check off whether it meets any of the four criteria.

**MY TOPIC: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **TITLE and PUBLICATION NAME**  | **SOURCE TYPE**  | **INFO NEED ATTRIBUTE NOTES**  |
|   |  □ Scholarly? | □ Background □ News □ Statistics□ Opinion □ Research  | □ Current □ Reliable □ Authoritative□ Purpose  |   |
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|   |  □ Scholarly? | □ Background □ News □ Statistics □ Opinion □ Research  | □ Current □ Reliable □ Authoritative□ Purpose |   |

**TERMS EXPLAINED**

**Background**: History and definitions.

**News**: What’s going on recently.

**Statistics**: Raw data.

**Opinion**: Reasoned analysis.

**Research**: Actual, empirical research like surveys or clinical trials.

**Current**: How timely is it relative to your needs?

**Reliable**: Is the source generally trustworthy and reliable? Can you identify its biases?

**Authoritative**: How credible is the author?

**Purpose:** Why was this published? To inform? To entertain? To persuade? To discover? Etc.

 **Common Source Types:** books, encyclopedias, newspapers, news websites, magazines, essay websites, blogs, social media, government websites, non-profit websites, datasets, scholarly articles,