Speech Library Assignment

TOPIC:

PURPOSE:

LIST 3 MAIN POINTS:
1.
2.
3.

GIVE THE THESIS SENTENCE:

WHAT IS THE LINK BETWEEN THE AUDIENCE AND THE TOPIC?

SOURCE 1: Use the Library Catalog to find either a printed book or an eBook that has information on your speech topic. Search in our Ron E. Lewis Library (LSC-O) first. If not successful, search in the Mary & John Gray Library at Lamar University (LU). Identify a book that is relevant to your speech topic and fill in the blanks below:

1. Click the “Details” button for your selected book. The opening tab shows the “Item Information.” Look at the bottom of the Item Information tab under “Location.” Check one below to complete the sentence:
   This book is located in…LSC-O’s Stacks_____ LSC-O’s Reference or other location _____
   LU’s Stacks_____ LU’s Reference or other location _____ Online (It’s an eBook) ______

2. Look under “Material” for the type of material and check one: **Your item is a …**
   Printed book_____ eBook_____ Reference book_______ (If it says DVD or CD, find a book.)

3. Still on the same tab, look at the Call Number, the exact shelf location and also a subject code for the book. Write the full call number on the line below: (letters, numbers, and a year)

4. Look at the line “Item info” Check one: **This book is …Available to be checked out _____ Available for use in the library only _____ (i.e. located in Reference or Reserves) Online only _____
   Currently checked out _____ and it should be available in _______________________________ days.

5. Look at the line “Pages” How many pages does this book have? __________
   **Now click the “Catalog Record” tab, next to the “Item Information” tab.**
   Look at the “Title” line. Write the title and subtitle for this book below:

   Look **after the slash (/) on the “Title” line. Write the author names and/or editor names below:**

   Look at the “Publication Info” line. Write the city, publisher name and year below:
Using MS Word, **create an MLA citation for this book.** Use your MLA guide handout for the correct order, capitalization, and punctuation of your citation. Put the citation in hanging indent format.

**SOURCE 2:** Find a relevant article from one of the library’s databases. If your topic is a health, science or technology-related, the article should be as recent as possible. Use any of these library databases:

- **Academic Search Complete** - Contains thousands of magazine and journal articles covering all topics, a good source for articles from popular and news magazines. Check the box that limits your results to full-text articles. If you need recent articles, re-sort your results to “date descending” to see most recent first.
- **Newspaper Source** - If your topic is about a recent news event or story, this database has articles from major national and international newspapers and selected articles from many regional newspapers. Find a newspaper article, not a wire service or broadcast news transcripts, which are also included in this database.
- **CredoReference** - Articles from over 600 reference books (encyclopedias and dictionaries), a great resource for defining terms and for background information on topics. This database is entirely full-text.
- **Other Databases** - Look at the “Databases by academic subjects” list for topics such as Business, Health Sciences or Education. Find it on the Library home page, middle column.

When you have found a good article, answer these questions. Questions 1, 2 & 3, must be answered while using the database.

1. Name of the database used to find your article? ____________________________
2. How many articles were available for your topic? __________________________
3. In what order were your search results sorted? ____________________________ Did you resort? ________________

**Citation information:** Write the information below. Then use this information to create your MLA citation.

**Article Author/s:** ______________________________________________________

If you used *Credo Reference*, give the book editor’s name, if you know it. __________________________

**Title of the article** ______________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

**Source:** Name of the magazine, journal, newspaper (or reference book if you used *Credo Reference*)

________________________________________________________________________

**Publication info:** Give magazine or newspaper dates, as day month year. Cite journals as volume number and issue number and year. If from *Credo* (it’s a book) write the publisher city, publisher’s name and the year.

________________________________________________________________________

**Page numbers:** Start Page_____ End page______ If from *Credo Reference*, use n. pag. _______ (no pages)

**Cite the database article in MLA style under the book citation.** After citing the article’s authors, title, source, publication and page range information, add: *Your Database’s Name* Web. day month year. (the date you accessed the information). As with the book citation, consult the MLA guide for correct order, capitalization, and punctuation of your citation. Use the hanging indent format.
SOURCE 3: A credible Web Page: Evaluate the Web page by applying the CRAAP Test as described below. Write an answer to the last question in each group. Look at the back of this page for a rubric that helps you determine values for each criteria: 0, 1, 2 or 3 points for each. Add them up for a score. Your instructor may ask you to also print and hand in your web page to help them verify your MLA citation.

Give us your CRAAP test score here ___________ (See back of this page)

CURRENCY/ TIMELINESS: When the information was published and the importance of currency to the topic.
- Is currency important for your topic? Is it a science, technology, or a health-related topic?
- When was the Web page originally published, last updated or revised? Look for a date somewhere on the page.
- Are the links on the page still functional? Can you determine if there is new information on the page?
- Tell us below, how did you determine the currency of the Web page?

REVELANCE/ COVERAGE OF THE TOPIC: The degree to which the information fills your information need.
- How relevant is the information for your topic? How on-topic is it? Do you need more information?
- Can you find better information in another source? Is this page the best you can find?
- Is it the type of information you needed? (i.e. background, detailed history, statistics, a primary source)
- Tell us in the space below, does the page give the right information or do you need more?

AUTHORITY: The provider of the information, and their reliability as a source.
- Who is responsible for putting the information on the Web? (i.e. the page author, creator, Web site sponsor?)
- Does the author provide their credentials? Can you determine the author’s level of expertise? Are they experts on the subject? “Google” the author’s name or sponsor’s name to find out all you can.
- If a corporate or group author, are they a well-known, reputable organization for this subject matter? Learn about the organization on their home page. Look for a tab or link to “About Us” or “Info” etc. on the home page.
- Describe in the space below, how did you establish the author’s authority?

ACCURACY: The truthfulness and correctness of the information.
- Where did the information on the page come from? Did the author create the information on the page? If not, the original source should be cited on the page, just as you must provide information sources in your own work.
- Are there cited sources or links to the original source of the information?
- Can you verify the information in other independent sources or from your personal knowledge of the topic?

PURPOSE: The reason for the Web page, and the point of view of the page author.
- Is the site promoting something that might cause biases? (opinions, products, ideologies, political bias)
- Is the information based on facts or is it an opinion? If opinion, is it based upon logical thinking? Is the author using good evidence for their opinion?
- What is the purpose of the Web sponsor of the page? Is the domain for the site .org (an organization), .edu (an educational site), .gov (a government site), .mil (a military site) .com (a commercial site), .net (a web-sponsoring site)? These are the most common Web domains.
- Give us your thoughts about the purpose/point of view of the information on your Web page.

Cite your Web page under your database article in MLA style. Look at the Web page example top of page 3 of the MLA guide. Use the site sponsor as a corporate author if there is not an author given for the page. Cite the Website name and the site sponsor after the page title if both are known. Cite the full URL address, copy/pasted from the address line for accuracy, inside of <angle brackets>. As before, use the hanging indent format. Double space the entire list.
Thinking Critically about Web Information—Using the CRAAP Test*

When you search the Web, you’re going to find a lot of information, but is it credible? The CRAAP test helps you determine this for yourself. Each topic causes some variations in the way you evaluate your information, so use the rubric below as a guide, and give your Web page a score. Provide score on pg 3.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Checking for C-R-A-A-P!</th>
<th>POINTS: 0</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Currency</strong>&lt;br&gt;How important is it for your topic to have recent information? Science, technology, or health information needs to be as recent as possible. How current is the information?</td>
<td>There is no indication of when the site was created, revised or updated. Use n.d. in place of the date in the citation.</td>
<td>The site was created is over 5 years ago with no date given for updating. (But, this varies depending upon the topic.)</td>
<td>The site was created or revised (updated) within the last 5 years.</td>
<td>The site was created or revised within the last 2 years. If there are cited sources, they are also fairly recent.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Relevance</strong>&lt;br&gt;Is this the information you need on a topic? Consider the type of information needed (primary sources) statistical, history or background information.</td>
<td>It mentions my topic briefly but not much else. Or it isn’t the type of information I need.</td>
<td>It helps a little, but it’s not enough, or it’s not the right type of information.</td>
<td>It provides most of what I need, but I still need more or another type of information.</td>
<td>It is exactly on the subject, is the right amount of information and the right type of information for what I needed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Authority.</strong>&lt;br&gt;Locate the author or sponsor and Google the name to find out more. What else have they published on the topic? Are there any credentials for the author? Is the author an expert? Is the organization well-known for this type of information?</td>
<td>There is either no author, or the author is possibly a student or an ordinary person publishing on the Web without expertise. Or the organization is not known. Text errors indicate the author is not an authority or an expert.</td>
<td>The author is named and but with no credentials. Or the organization is of questionable authority. Web groups can name themselves with names that sound very close to known organizations.</td>
<td>Author is named but the degree of expertise is not that high or clear. Or the organization, it is well-known, and but the degree of expertise on this specific subject is not clear.</td>
<td>The author’s credentials are given and clearly indicate that he/she is an expert. Or the organization is well-known and highly credible for information on this topic.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Accuracy</strong>&lt;br&gt;Are there any sources cited for the information? Are images/photos labeled and credited?</td>
<td>Information is provided with no indication as to where it comes from.</td>
<td>There is a vague reference to the information source. Assumptions will have to be made as to the source of the information.</td>
<td>There is a general statement about the source of the information, but not enough to actually locate these sources.</td>
<td>There is a list of cited sources for further information. Images/photos are clearly labeled and sources are credited.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Purpose</strong>&lt;br&gt;Is the information fact or opinion? Is it stating a point of view, promoting an idea, ideology, service or product? If you need good opinions, then consider the author’s authority, their use of logic and provision of evidence for their opinions.</td>
<td>The purpose of the page is to present a biased point of view, to sell or promote an idea, service or product. It is not a factual or balanced point of view. The opinion is either not backed up with facts or the facts are distorted.</td>
<td>The purpose of the page is to sell or promote something, but it also provides some good factual information. Expressed opinion is somewhat logical and is based upon some evidence.</td>
<td>The purpose of the page is to educate or to provide factual information on a topic. Expressed opinion is logical and provides good evidence for the opinion.</td>
<td>The purpose of the page is to provide information that is scholarly or at least high quality. Expressed opinion provides evidence as facts, presented as numbers in charts, graphs, tables, or statistics.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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<tr>
<th>Score Totals:</th>
<th>0 to 3 points</th>
<th>4 to 7 points</th>
<th>8 to 11</th>
<th>12 to 15</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Meanings:</td>
<td>A questionable source. Don’t use or cite it.</td>
<td>OK for background on a topic, but don’t cite it.</td>
<td>A good source to use and cite for college research.</td>
<td>An excellent source to use and cite for college research.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*a modified version of the CRAAP Test created by Meriam Library at California State University, Chico.*