



ELA Virtual Learning

Composition and Reading 2: Determining Credible Source(2 of 3)

May 5, 2020



Composition and Reading II

Lesson: May 5, 2020

Objective/Learning Target:

- Students will be able to assess a source for its credibility.

Warm - Up

Look at the following headlines. Which ones are credible and which ones are suspicious. Explain your reasoning.

- 1) Fall Canceled After 3 Billion Seasons [Article Link](#)
- 2) Trump Vows More Coronavirus Testing, but Less Than What May Be Needed [Article Link](#)
- 3) Illinois judge rules against Gov. Pritzker's stay-at-home order in suit brought by GOP lawmaker [Article Link](#)

Learn:

There is a certain number of questions you should ask yourself when determining credibility. The answers will tell you whether the source is credible or not.

- 1) Determine authority: Who is quoted within the article? Do they have a position of authority that appear worthy of what they are talking about? Example: A doctor would not necessarily be a position of authority on immigration law. A lawyer would not be in a position of authority cancer treatments.
- 2) Determine Accuracy: Check other sources. Are they all generally saying the same thing about what the facts of the event? Be careful, opinions can differ, so they could contradict on this piece. Ex. Cancer treatments: Doctors have various opinions on how to treat, but they all agree on the fact that cancer left untreated will be fatal.

Learn:

3) Determine objectivity: Could the author of this article be biased. Example: An article about nicotine addiction. Is the doctor employed by the tobacco companies? If so, then the article is most likely biased.

4) Evaluate: After looking through authority, accuracy, and objectivity, what do you think about the source? What reasons would you justify to a teacher or colleague for using this particular source.

For more information on determining credibility follow this link: [Determining Credibility of Sources](#)

Practice:

- 1) Go back to your warm up. Read the articles in depth. Using the 4 steps, determine if these sources are credible.
 - a) Fall Canceled After 3 Billion Seasons [Article Link](#)
 - b) Trump Vows More Coronavirus Testing, but Less Than What May Be Needed [Article Link](#)
 - c) Illinois judge rules against Gov. Pritzker's stay-at-home order in suit brought by GOP lawmaker [Article Link](#)

Wrap - Up:

- 1) Now you are ready to do your own research. Use the [google spreadsheet](#) and your knowledge of the databases (see previous lesson) to conduct your own research for your critical literary analysis paper.
- 2) Don't get discouraged. After analyzing to see if a source is credible, you might find that it is not. If this is so, then you will need to find a replacement article. It can be a lengthy process, but finding quality articles is so important.