

Name:

Class Period

AP Capstone / R.A.V.E.N. & the Credibility of Sources

Instructions: Use this form to evaluate the credibility of any source you might want to use when researching a topic to craft an argument. This system will help to identify which sources are more reliable. Try to keep in mind that most sources will have some flaws, you should not throw out a source simply because the source has some flaws. Pick any topic you want and locate a resource on EBSCO. Your source must be from a peer reviewed academic journal. Use Google to investigate the source or author.

Use a pen to complete the assignment

Citation: (Use APA Format and hand write the citation)
Reputation: What do you know about the reputation of the author, the sources and the publication/website?
Ability to Observe: Is the author in a position that allows access to reliable evidence? If the article is about an event, did the author actually observe the event?
Vested Interest: Does the author have a personal stake in the topic or event? Would the author gain anything by being deceitful or manipulating the facts? Would the author gain anything by being as honest as possible?
Expertise: Does the author have specialized knowledge on the topic or event? Does the evidence come from a source that has expertise on the topic or event?
Neutrality: Does the author attempt to maintain neutrality about the issue, or is bias clearly evident? Is the source of the evidence attempting to maintain neutrality or is bias clearly present?
Final Analysis: Is the source more or less reliable? How has this evaluation process changed your perception of the source for good or bad?