**Assess Sources** – It is critical, for any research project, that you are able to tell a reliable source from a ridiculous one. To show me that you know what you’re doing, find 3 web sources, skim them, and assess them using the criteria below. If the source meets a criterion, place an “x” in that criteria’s box. Once you’ve assessed all 12 criteria for 1 source, add up the source’s total score, then find its reliability percentage.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Criteria** | **Source URL:**  http://zapatopi.net/treeoctopus/ | **Source URL:** |
| **Credibility** | * The author’s name is listed |  |  |
| * The author’s credentials are listed |  |  |
| * The author can be reached for questions/comments |  |  |
| * There are few mechanical errors (grammar, spelling) |  |  |
| **Reliability** | * **The date of publication or update is current** |  |  |
| * **The author is fair and objective (unbiased)** |  |  |
| * **The information is logical and complete** |  |  |
| * **Other resources contain similar info** |  |  |
| **Validity** | * The source provides information relevant to topic |  |  |
| * The source provides information at an appropriate grade level (not too simple and not too advanced) |  |  |
| * The source contains new information |  |  |
| * The source answers your questions about your topic |  |  |
| **Total # Check Marks for each source. Maximum: 12** | |  |  |
| **Reliability Percentage (#of x/12)** | |  |  |