

Name _____

Date _____

Media Literacy Activity

Evaluating Web Sites

Now that you have examined web sites with your class, you will now have the opportunity to examine some web sites independently with the help of a partner. Keep in mind our earlier discussion about what makes a web site valuable and reliable. You can also refer back to the QUICK tutorial at <http://www.quick.org.uk/menu.htm> for other important questions to consider when examining web sites.

1. You have been assigned by your social studies teacher to research information on Shakespeare's Globe Theatre for a presentation you will be giving the class. Carefully examine each of the following web sites on the Globe Theatre and complete the chart on evaluating web sites for each site. Keep in mind you are looking for a reliable, valuable site you can use to get information for your presentation.
 - Shakespeare's Globe Research Database
<http://www.rdg.ac.uk/globe/>
 - Globe Theatre
<http://www2.sunysuffolk.edu/lewiss/globe.htm>
 - Shakespeare's Globe Theatre
<http://www.angband.demon.co.uk/Globe/>
2. After viewing all three sites discuss with your partner how you would rank (1-3 with 1 being the best) each site for being an accurate, reliable site for information on the Globe Theatre. Refer back to the information you completed in the chart.
3. Individually you will write a paragraph on each site explaining why you would or would not recommend the site to a fellow student to use for a project on the Globe Theatre. In your paragraph, include information on the authorship, purpose, accuracy, detail and design, and overall value of the site.



Rubric for Writing Assignment

	Poor			Well Done		
Correct paragraph form	2	4	6	8	10	
Mechanics	2	4	6	8	10	
Supports recommendation with examples	1	2	3	4	5	
Includes discussion of :						
Authorship		1	2	3	4	5
Purpose	1	2	3	4	5	
Accuracy	1	2	3	4	5	
Detail and design		1	2	3	4	5
Overall value of the site	1	2	3	4	5	
				Total	/50	

Evaluating Web Sites Chart

	Site 1	Site 2	Site 3
<p>Who is responsible for this site?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Who is the author ? • Is the author qualified? An expert? • Who sponsors the site? • Is there a link to information about the author or sponsor? • Can you contact this person from the site? 			
<p>What is the content/subject matter of the web site?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What topics are covered? • How in-depth is the material? • Does the information show a minimum of bias? • Is the information accurate? • Are the links from the site appropriate and supportive of the content? 			

(Continued)

<p>Where does the web site reside?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is the site's address/URL? • Is the server at a school or university? A business? A governmental agency? • Is this a personal page with a "~" or ".name" in the URL? 			
<p>When was the web site last updated?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is the information current? 			
<p>How does the main page look and function?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is the site easy to navigate? • Is the page well organized? • Does the page load in a reasonable amount of time? • Do all of the links work? • Is there any advertising on the site? 			

(Continued)

<p>Why does the web site exist?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Is the site trying to sell something? To inform? To persuade?• Who is the web site's target audience?• Is the same information found in books?			
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