

Searching on the Internet and Databases and How to Cite your Source

Common commands for search engines include:

- Quotation Marks (")
Using quotation marks will help to find specific phrases involving more than one word.
For example: "Martin Luther King"
- Addition Sign (+)
Adding a + sign before a word means that it **MUST** be included in each site listed. For example: + Florida + taxes
- Subtraction Sign (-)
Adding a - sign before a word means that it will **NOT** appear in the sites listed. For example: + Washington -DC
- Asterisks (*)
Asterisks can be used for wild-cards in some search engines. For example: Mexic* will look for Mexico, Mexican, Mexicali, etc.

Analyzing web resources

Answer the following questions to evaluate web resources.

Accuracy

- Are sources listed for the facts?
- Can information be verified through another source?
- Has the site been edited for grammar, spelling, etc.?

Authority

- Is the publisher reputable?
- Is the sponsorship clear?
- Is a phone number or postal address available?
- Is there a link to the sponsoring organization?
- Is the author qualified to write on this topic?

Objectivity

- Does the sponsor have commercial interests?
- Is advertising included on the page?
- Are there obvious biases?

Currency

- Is a publication date indicated?
- Is there a date for the last update?
- Is the topic one that does not change frequently?

Coverage

- Are the topics covered in depth?
- Does the content appear to be complete?

How to Cite a Site

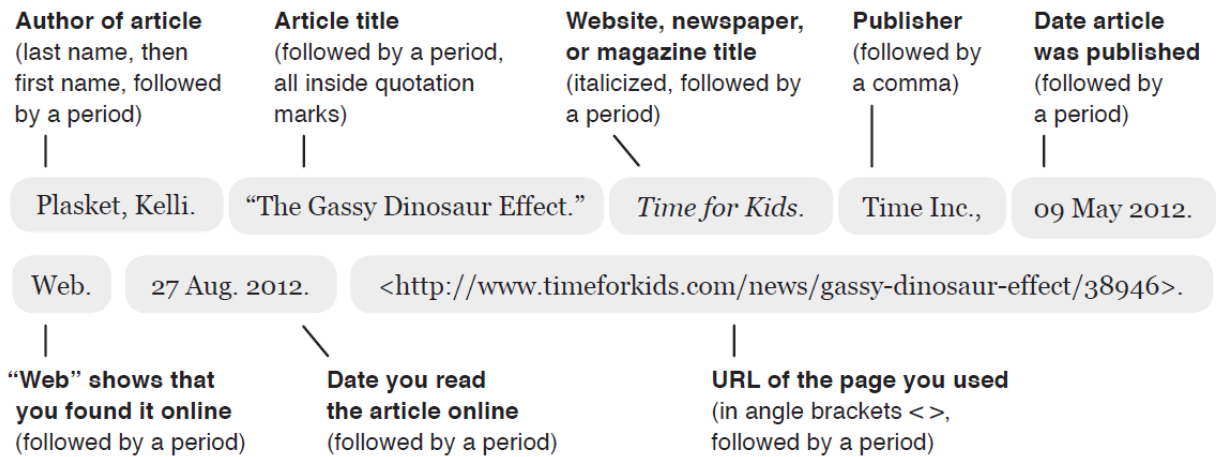
Online Newspaper and Magazine Articles

Most online newspaper and magazine sites are connected to printed newspapers and magazines. However, there are also online-only publications.

Here's an example of a citation for an online magazine article:

Plasket, Kelli. "The Gassy Dinosaur Effect." Time for Kids. Time Inc., 09 May 2012. Web. 27 Aug. 2012. <<http://www.timeforkids.com/news/gassy-dinosaur-effect/38946>>.

Here's how you would create the citation:



Professional Websites

Professional sites include those created by schools, universities, governments, museums, organizations, and companies.

Here's an example of a citation for a page found on a professional site:

"Words and Voices." *MuralFarm.org*. City of Philadelphia Mural Arts Program, 2013. Web. 02 Jan. 2013. <<http://www.muralfarm.org/Muralfarm/Search.aspx>>.

Here's how you would create the citation:

