Worksheet for Evaluating Web sites

Web site evaluated _____

Rate Web sites using this rubric:

	Criteria	10 Points	5 Points	0 Points
1	**Is the information accurate?**	Yes, I've read it and it seems accurate to me. ☐	Probably but not sure. ☐	Maybe not. ☐
2	**Is the information relevant?**	Yes, the answer to my research question is here. ☐	It's relevant to the topic but does not answer my question. ☐	No, this site does not answer my research question. ☐
3	**Is the information balanced?**	Balances points with contrary views. ☐	Presents facts with Little analysis or criticism. ☐	Biased, meaning to sell or persuade, or presented as a joke. ☐
4	**What about the author?**	Trusted authority. ☐	Seems ok but can't really tell. ☐	Private individual could be anyone. ☐
5	**Can you contact the author or institution?**	Name and contact given with link to home page. ☐	Name or institution given, but no contact. ☐	No contact info, no link to home page. ☐
6	**Who publishes the site?**	Trusted institution, links back to home page. ☐	Some kind of institution looks real but not sure. ☐	A private individual. ☐
7	**Domain name?**	.edu or .gc.ca or .gov or .ab.ca or .on.ca ☐	.org or .net ☐	.com or tilde (~) or can't tell ☐
8	**Is a date given?**	Yes, and it is up-to date. ☐	Yes but out-of-date. ☐	Doesn't say, no date on site. ☐
9	**Readability?**	Easy to read. ☐	Hard to read. ☐	Impossible to read. ☐
10	**Accuracy?**	Clear expression, no mistakes. ☐	One or two typos. ☐	Grammatical errors and misspellings. ☐

11	**Are the graphics helpful?**	Helpful illustrations, fast loading.	Illustrations distract or hard to download.	No graphics.
12	**Is the information referenced?**	Many references and links.	Few references and links.	No references.
13	**Navigation?**	Easy to browse and find information.	Info is there, but not easy to find.	No navigation aids.
14	**Ads and pop-ups?**	No commercials, ads or pop-ups.	Some, but not distracting or are associated with the web site's owner or association.	Too many, too commercial.
15	**A free site?**	All free.	Some free stuff but some materials and information for which you must pay.	Pay, subscribe, or only get a free trial.
	Total per column			

Add up total from each column for web site's total score: _____

Total score available is 150 possible points. Web sites scoring over 115 points might be considered reliable and relevant for use in your assignments. Those web sites scoring less than 115 points are suspicious of intent, quality, accuracy, and reliability and perhaps not acceptable for your academic work.