

Critically Evaluating a Blog...

Blogs do not need to be scholarly, but should have the following characteristics:

- Current and updated frequently
- The blogger/writer should be knowledgeable about the topic (if not an expert) or link consistently to other bloggers/writers who are experts
- The blog should not a commercial or ad for products

What is the URL of the blog you are evaluating? http:// _____

What is the title of the blog? _____

What is the name of the person who maintains the blog? _____

Evaluating the Content:	Your comments/findings:
The Blogger: Who is he/she? Is the blogger an expert on the topic he/she is writing about?	
Blog materials: What type of materials is the blogger reading or citing?	
Blog influence: Is the blogger well-established or influential in the blogging community?	
Content depth: Is the content of the blog covered in depth and with authority?	

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Evaluating the Content:	Your comments/findings:
Language: How sophisticated is the language? Does the blogger use jargon or terminology relevant to the topic? Does the blogger use correct spelling and grammar?	
Blog activity: How frequently does the blog get updated? Is there an archive of past posts?	
Blog timing: How topical are the posts? For example, was this one of the first blogs to address this topic?	
Blog bias: Is the blog's point-of-view readily apparent? Is this personal opinion? Does the blogger recognize more than one point-of-view?	
Blog usefulness: If the blogger is not a traditional "expert" in this field, does he/she give a unique perspective on the topic? Is the blogger's perspective valuable for research?	