**What is the web article, news story, or claim you will evaluate?  
What is the URL for the web article, news story, or claim?**S**top**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| * What/Who is the source/website? * Is it a source/website I am familiar with? * If yes, what specific information do you know about the source? * If not, what information do I need to help me analyze the information or claim and evaluate the credibility of this source. |  |

# Investigate the source (read laterally)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Authority of the source or individual author  * + What expertise, credentials, work experience, life experience, or other significant subject knowledge does this person or organization possess that qualifies them to provide credible information? * **Bias of the source or the content of the information**   + Is there a known bias, political leaning, or social agenda related to the source? Lateral reading is especially helpful for uncovering bias since most sources will not openly detail this on their website. |  |

# Find better coverage

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Credibility of the content  * Does the source provide citations or attribute information to a particular source or person? If so, follow that citation back to the original source to verify the claim. If not, Google the quote or claim to find more about it. In many cases you’ll come up with websites that are either discrediting or supporting the information as accurate. Fact checking websites and hoax busting websites are also good sources to consult * What is the domain ending of the website? * Date: When was the information published or posted? |  |

**Trace claims back to the original source**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Can you identify the original source? If yes, provide a URL. If no, why not? Primary/original sources can be:   * Data from research studies or experiments (helpful for determining if claims using statistics are accurate). * Government documents * Quotes, tweets, or posts from famous people or politicians (helpful for verifying if screenshots of a Twitter account is real). * Images (remember it is very easy for images online to be manipulated, photoshopped, or used out of context). |  |