### ABCs of Source Evaluation

#### MLA Citation:

#### Author Credibility

- Is an author identified?
- Have you ever heard of this author?
- What makes the author credible?
  - Education?
  - Experience?
  - Research Technique?
  - Reputation?
- What is the **Authority** or reputation of the publisher or sponsor of this information?

#### Bias

- Can you determine author bias for one or more of the following reasons?
  - Emotional language
  - Political leanings
  - Personal investment in topic
  - Reputation of author/publisher
  - Missing information or selective use of facts
  - Editorial/opinion piece
  - Other
- What might be the effect of this bias?

#### Currency

- Is up-to-date information critical for your research?
- Has the information on this subject changed since the publication date?
  - Yes – How?
  - No – Why not?

#### Coverage

- How does this source cover the content?
  - General (more basic) overview
  - Primary Source
  - Thorough investigation
  - Other
- Does the source information complement or conflict with other sources? If so, how?

#### How will you use information from this source?

Created by teachers at Souhegan High School, Amherst, NH