Evaluating Web Information
BIO100

INTRODUCTION: The following three scenarios are based on webpages that were retrieved by real PC students when researching to complete college assignments. After viewing the "Google Like A Librarian" lesson, evaluate these three webpages to determine if you think these are high quality webpages that should have be used by the PC students.

Scenario 1

A biology student used "Google" to locate information on mononucleosis. He is building a webpage for his BIO205 "infectious diseases" project.

Webpage: Infectious Mononucleosis

Directions: Evaluate this webpage by identifying and critiquing the author and the sponsor (host) of the webpage, determining the purpose of the webpage, and examining the quality of the content.

1. Would you use this webpage?   YES   NO

2. Explain. In a paragraph, provide an explanation of your decision. If your answer is "YES," give a detailed rationale. If your answer is "NO," be sure to include a statement on what you could have used instead of this webpage.

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Scenario 2

A culinary arts student searched in Google for the benefits and side effects of Vitamin C to help complete a FON241 lab report.

Webpage: Is It Possible To Consume Too Much Vitamin C?

Directions: Evaluate the quality of the answers provided on this webpage by identifying and critiquing the authors.
3. Would you use any of the answers on this webpage?  YES  NO

4. Explain. In a paragraph, provide an explanation of your decision. If your answer is "YES," give a detailed rationale. If your answer is "NO," be sure to include a statement on what you could have used instead of this webpage.

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Scenario 3

A nursing student is writing a paper for NUR151 and came across this website during a Google search on medical treatments.

Website: National Health Federation

Directions: Evaluate this website by determining the credibility of the sponsor (host) of the webpage. Be sure to determine the purpose of this website.

5. Along with analyzing the source itself, “Google” this website (National Health Federation) to read what others have to say about this source. This is referred to as “lateral reading” of a website.

6. Provide the name and URL of the other website (see #5) to evaluate this source:

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7. Would you use this website?  YES  NO

8. Explain. In a paragraph, provide an explanation of your decision. If your answer is "YES," give a detailed rationale. If your answer is "NO," explain your concerns.

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