SMART[™] Lesson Evaluating Sources of Information

In this lesson, you will learn how to evaluate sources of information. This is an important skill to have, especially when reading nonfiction. Here are some things to keep in mind when evaluating sources:

Accuracy

Is the information presented in the source accurate? Is it supported by evidence? Look for sources that provide specific details and examples.

Expertise

Does the author or creator of the source have expertise in the topic? Look for sources that are written or created by people who have a background or education in the subject matter.

Objectivity

Is the source objective? In other words, does it present information in a fair and impartial manner, or is it biased? Look for sources that provide multiple perspectives or points of view.

Credibility

Is the source credible? Is it from a reputable organization or publisher? Look for sources that are published by established and reliable sources.

Questions:

- 1. What does it mean for a source to be accurate?
- 2. Why is it important for the author or creator of a source to have expertise in the topic?
- 3. What is objectivity?
- 4. How can you determine if a source is credible?

Answers:

- 1. For a source to be accurate, the information presented in it must be supported by evidence and specific details and examples.
- 2. It is important for the author or creator of a source to have expertise in the topic so they can provide accurate and reliable information.

- 3. Objectivity means that a source presents information in a fair and impartial manner, without being biased.
- 4. You can determine if a source is credible by looking for sources that are published by established and reliable sources.

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