

ANALYZING SOURCE CREDIBILITY: “RAVEN”

Reputation	What do you know about the reputation of the author, the sources, and the publication? Is the sources reputation harmed at all due to any past actions (which would make it less reliable)? Is the author/source/publication in a position of authority?	
Ability to Observe	Is the author in a position that allows him/her access to reliable evidence? If the article is about an event, did the author actually observe the event?	
Vested Interest	Does the author have a personal stake in the topic or event? Would the author gain anything by lying? Would the author gain anything by telling the truth?	
Expertise	Does the author have specialized knowledge on the topic or event? Does the evidence come from a source that has expertise on the topic or event?	
Neutrality	Is the author neutral about the issue or is bias evident? Is the source of the evidence neutral or biased?	

Jill Pavich, NBCT
SOURCE: College Board/AP Seminar Training

jill.pavich@palmbeachschools.org
Boca Raton Community High School, PBCSD