



Checklist

Checklist for evaluating documents

Have the following questions been answered?

- Who produced the document?
- Why was the document produced?
- Was the person or group who produced the document in a position to write authoritatively about the subject?
- Is the material genuine?
- Did the author have an axe to grind or a particular slant to promote?
- Is the document typical of its kind? If not, is it possible to establish how atypical it is and in what ways?
- Is the meaning of the document clear?
- Can the events or accounts presented in the document be corroborated?
- Are there different interpretations of the document from the one you offer? If so, what are they? Have you discounted them? If so, why?