

Exploring Resources

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Different types of resources

- Primary vs. Secondary Sources
- Scholarly vs. Popular Resources

Primary Sources

A first-hand account or original document that provides direct evidence about a topic or event. Examples include surveys, interviews, personal narratives, artwork, and government reports.

Secondary Sources

A work that analyzes, interprets, or summarizes information from a primary source. Examples include review articles, biographies, documentaries, and textbooks.

Scholarly Resources

A type of resource written by an expert in a field of study, intended for academic audiences, and that contributes to knowledge in that field. Characteristics include peer-reviewed articles, in-depth research studies, and extensive bibliographies.

Popular Resources

A publication that provides general knowledge or commentary on current events or popular culture for a broad audience. Characteristics include magazines, newspapers, and websites, articles that may lack rigorous research or citations.

Evaluating Resources



- Author credibility
- Publication date
- Relevance to your topic
- Accuracy of information

Author credibility

Check the author's qualifications and credentials in the field related to your topic. Look for advanced degrees, professional experience, and a history of publications in reputable journals.

Relevance to your topic

Determine if the source directly addresses your research question. Additionally, assess whether it provides sufficient depth and breadth of information.

Publication date

Assess the timeliness of the information by checking the publication date and looking for updates or revisions, as recent data may be essential depending on your topic.

Accuracy of Information

Check if the source provides evidence to support its claims. Ensure that citations are included for further verification and confirm whether you can corroborate the information with other reliable sources.