

IS THIS A SCHOLARLY SOURCE?

Title of Source: _____

1. Does the source have *at least 3 quality* references at the end?***

___ Yes ___ No

2. Is the source free of advertisements?

___ Yes ___ No

3. Does the source have any in-text citations or footnotes?

___ Yes ___ No

4. Does the source use difficult vocabulary or language?

___ Yes ___ No

5. Does the author(s) seem like an expert in their field? (are their credentials listed?)

___ Yes ___ No

6. Is the source *at least 5* pages long?

___ Yes ___ No

7. Does this source have an abstract? (a short description of what the source is about)

___ Yes ___ No

8. If the source is a website, does the URL end in .edu?

___ Yes ___ No ___ It's not a website

9. Is the source peer reviewed? (is it published in an academic journal?)

___ Yes ___ No

If you answered “yes” to five or more of these questions, there is a **good chance** you have found a scholarly source. ** If you answered “no” to Question 1, you do not have a scholarly source. If you're still unsure about your source, please see a librarian for further help.

NOTES: In most cases, you want your source to be published within the last 10 years. Please check with your professor or a librarian about using older sources.

The Scholarly Source Checklist helps students to evaluate a source to determine if it is a scholarly or popular source. This works well for freshman courses and those who are writing within their major! Feel free to print and pass out to your class or to those students who struggle with identifying scholarly sources.