

There are several main criteria for determining whether a source is reliable or not.

1) Accuracy. Verify the information you already know against the information found in the source. Look also for disclaimers as to the accuracy of the content. You may also want to double-check the information against a source that you already know is trustworthy. Even though a source may use technical language, the content may be misleading.

2) Authority. Make sure the source is written by a trustworthy author and/or institution. If you are using a webpage, you can usually identify the owner/publisher by the URL, or check for a copyright statement near the bottom of the page. Make sure the author has the proper credentials on the subject matter. Also, determine if the source is biased. For example, if it is medical information from a drug company, that company will provide information in support of its product. Be aware of the objectivity of the author and his/her viewpoints.

3) Currency. Depending on your subject, your currency needs will vary. For topics related to recent breakthroughs in medicine and technology, you will need to find up-to-date sources. If, however, you are researching a historical topic, older resources may still be useful. For webpages, you can often find a copyright date near the bottom. Also, look for the words "revised" or "updated" to find the date of the website.

4) Coverage. You will also want to examine the content of the source and how it fits your information needs. Identify its relevancy to your topic and whether or not it addresses the subject matter. Also, make sure it provides enough information if you are looking for a source that discusses the matter in-depth. Additionally, determine if the site provides all the data you may need. For example, if you need to include graphs or charts in your paper, try to find a source that provides these.

To summarize, check who published the source, the purpose of the source, when it was created/updated, and its content. Also see if it has any potential bias and, if a webpage, provides references or reliable links to other sources.

Timmer, Cathy. "Q. How Do I Know If a Source Is Reliable?" *How Do I Know If a Source Is Reliable? - Got a Question? Fast Answers and FAQs*, 29 Apr. 2020, libanswers.tcl.edu/faq/6286.

Useful Fact-Checking Websites:

<https://mediabiasfactcheck.com/>

<https://www.factcheck.org/>

<http://verificationhandbook.com/downloads/verification.handbook.pdf>

<https://www.politifact.com/>

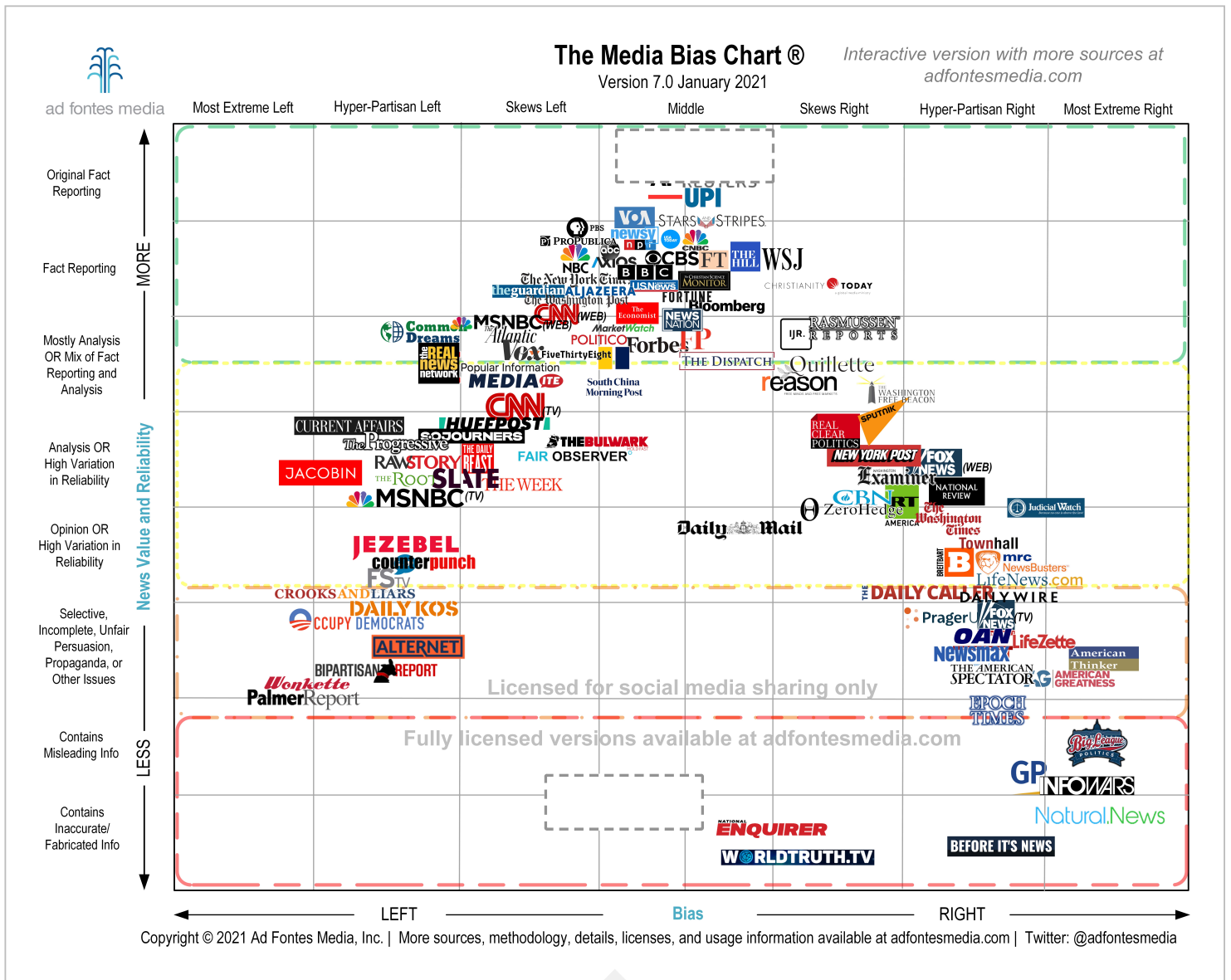
BONNER AND PRENDERGAST CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL - ELA 3 CP: SECTION 51

Module 1.3 - Finding Reliable Sources

QUESTION 1

	/5
--	----

Label the following boxes with the correct information based on your own knowledge of source reliability.



1	Least Biased	2	Most Biased
---	--------------	---	-------------

QUESTION 2

/4

Look through the following website and determine whether or not it would be a reliable source: <https://kcnawatch.org/>

QUESTION 3

/4

Look through the following source and determine whether or not it is a reliable source: <https://h2g2.com/>

QUESTION 4

/4

Look through the following source and determine whether or not the source is reliable: <http://www.mankindquarterly.org/>

QUESTION 5

/4

Look through the following source and determine whether or not it is reliable: <https://www.cdc.gov/>

POSSIBLE POINTS: 21 FACTOR: X1 TEST VALUE: 25

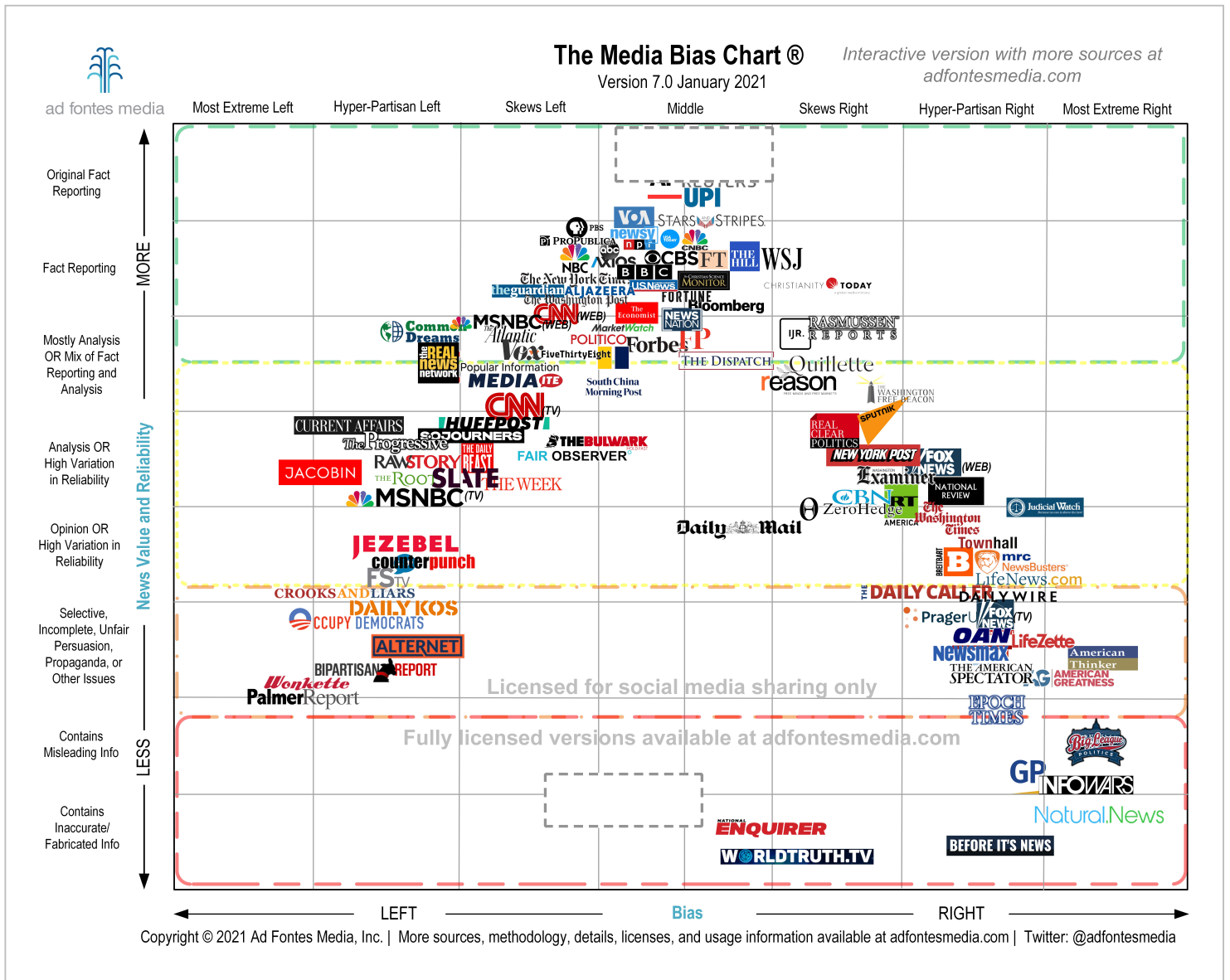
ANSWER KEY

Module 1.3 - Finding Reliable Sources

GRADING INSTRUCTIONS: Grade each question and tally the points to find the student's total points for the assessment. If the factor does not equal 1, multiply the total points by the factor to obtain the student's final score.

QUESTION 1: LABEL IMAGE

Label the following boxes with the correct information based on your own knowledge of source reliability.



Correct answers:

- 1 Least Biased
- 2 Most Biased

5 possible pts.

QUESTION 2: SHORT ANSWER/ESSAY

Look through the following website and determine whether or not it would be a reliable source: <https://kcnawatch.org/>

QUESTION 3: SHORT ANSWER/ESSAY

Look through the following source and determine whether or not it is a reliable source: <https://h2g2.com/>

QUESTION 4: SHORT ANSWER/ESSAY

Look through the following source and determine whether or not the source is reliable: <http://www.mankindquarterly.org/>

QUESTION 5: SHORT ANSWER/ESSAY

Look through the following source and determine whether or not it is reliable: <https://www.cdc.gov/>