

Example Scenarios: Source Evaluation via SIFT Technique

College-level learners

Scenario: You are writing a research paper about the effects of weather on crime and need scholarly literature about the topic. You find a webpage titled *Violent crime increases during warmer weather, no matter the season, study finds*. You use the SIFT technique to determine if this source is appropriate for your research assignment.

Source link: <https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2017/09/170925132948.htm>

Find better coverage:

Search in [ProQuest Social Science database](#) for:
temperature AND crime
(*limit to scholarly journals)

Scenario: You are writing a research paper about treatments to reduce childhood asthma. You find a webpage titled *Consuming omega-3 fatty acids could prevent asthma, study suggests*. You use the SIFT technique to determine if this article is appropriate for your research assignment.

Source link: <https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2021/01/210127193320.htm>

Alt. source link:

<https://beforeitsnews.com/health/2021/01/omega-3s-consuming-more-oily-fish-could-prevent-asthma-in-children-with-specific-gene-variant-3037501.html>

Find better coverage:

Search in [ProQuest Health and Medicine Complete](#) for:
omega-3 fatty acids AND childhood asthma



High-school and/or adult learners

Scenario: You are researching ways to decrease your dog's anxiety that does not involve medication. You find a website about the Dog Island, a leash-free place for stress-free living. The place sounds too good to be true.

Source link: <http://www.thedogisland.com/>

Find better coverage: One of the [founding members](#) is a dogologist named Diana Rogers. Can you find a LinkedIn account, resume, or other professional evidence of this business owner?

Trace claims: In the [Press section](#), a few media outlets are cited. Search for the *Village Voice* article (4/16/2003) that covers The Dog Island. What do you find?

Scenario: You are researching diets to improve your dog's health. A website suggests that the grain-free diet you give your dog could cause heart problems. Can you believe this source?

Source link:

<https://beforeitsnews.com/animals-pets/2019/02/grain-free-diets-could-put-your-dog-at-risk-of-heart-disease-2463953.html>

