



*Study* **SMART**

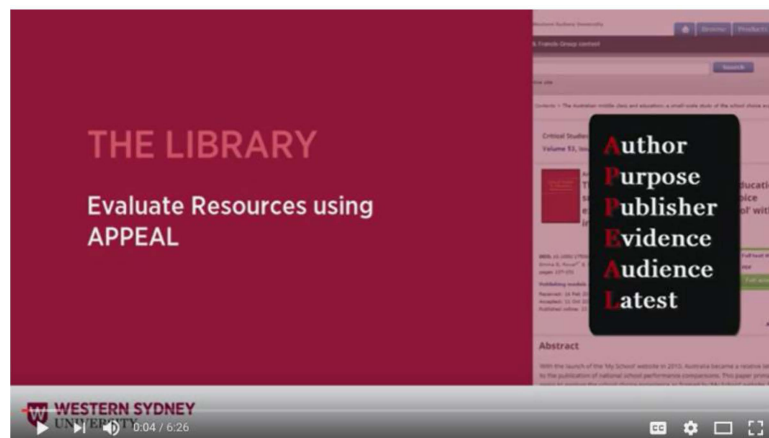
BUILD THE SKILLS FOR YOUR SUCCESS

## APPEAL evaluation worksheet

Keep this worksheet by your side to remind you of the critical questions you need to ask of each source you find, to ensure that all sources you use are scholarly.

1. Watch the Library video 'Evaluate resources using APPEAL' (6:26).

These resources will introduce you to the APPEAL framework for evaluating sources.



2. Use the table on the following page to evaluate each source you find. You are likely to look at more than four sources, so use more than one worksheet. You may also find the Study Smart resource 'Types of sources' (PDF, 97 kB) helpful for this.
3. If any source you found does not satisfy all the APPEAL criteria, cross it out and move on to the next one. That way you don't have to spend time reading a text that is unsuitable for academic assignments.
4. Once you have evaluated all your resources (you may need more than one sheet!), read them **efficiently**. Download the resource on [How to read effectively](#) (PDF, 535 kB). There is also a [reading worksheet](#) (PDF, 59 kB) and a resource with tips on [organising your reading](#) (PDF, 97 kB).

|                  | Source 1   | Source 2 | Source 3 | Source 4 |
|------------------|--|----------|----------|----------|
| <b>Author</b>    | <b>Who is/are the author(s)?</b><br>The author should have expertise on this topic – look for their qualifications and/or experience in the field.   |          |          |          |
| <b>Purpose</b>   | <b>Why has the paper been written?</b><br>Scholarly texts are written to inform or to persuade, but not to entertain or to sell something.   |          |          |          |
| <b>Publisher</b> | <b>Who is responsible for the text being published?</b><br>Scholarly texts are published by reputable academic publishers, e.g. <a href="http://bit.ly/2lemjWI">http://bit.ly/2lemjWI</a> .                      |          |          |          |
| <b>Evidence</b>  | <b>Is the argument based on credible evidence?</b><br>Scholarly texts use empirical research (results of experiments, observations, interviews, etc) or other scholarly literature as evidence for their claims. |          |          |          |
| <b>Audience</b>  | <b>Who is the author writing for?</b><br>Scholarly texts are written for the academic community, including researchers, theorists, and other experts in the field.   |          |          |          |
| <b>Latest</b>    | <b>Is this the most up-to-date information available?</b><br>Empirical papers should be as recent as possible. Theoretical papers may be relevant even if they are a bit older.                                  |          |          |          |