# LIBR 100: Identifying & Evaluating Source Types Worksheet

The work in this module is all submitted online via the course site. **This worksheet is optional.** It is a space for you to keep notes or work out your ideas on paper (or in an online document), separate from the course site. You will not turn this in.

Part 1. Identifying Source Types.

Look at the following (MLA formatted) citations. Match each citation to the type of source it refers to in the table below. Make your judgments based on the citations on this page: do not click on the links to look at the sources yet.

**1)** Brody, Jane E. “Scientists See Dangers in Energy Drinks.” *The New York Times*, 1 Feb. 2011, p. D7. *Nexis Uni*, <https://advance-lexis-com.proxy.wexler.hunter.cuny.edu/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:522Y-F9F1-JBG3-62BT-00000-00&context=1516831>.

**2)** “Caffeine.” *Encyclopedia Britannica,* 28 Jul. 2022, <https://www.britannica.com/science/caffeine>. Accessed 22 Aug. 2022.

**3)** Mednick, Sara C., et al. “Comparing the Benefits of Caffeine, Naps and Placebo on Verbal, Motor and Perceptual Memory.” *Behavioural Brain Research*, vol. 193, no. 1, 2008, pp. 79–86. *Science Direct*, <http://proxy.wexler.hunter.cuny.edu/login?url=https://doi.org/10.1016/j.bbr.2008.04.028>.

**4)** Preedy, Victor R, editor. *Caffeine: Chemistry, Analysis, Function and Effects*. Royal Society of Chemistry, 2012. <https://pubs-rsc-org.proxy.wexler.hunter.cuny.edu/en/content/ebook/978-1-84973-367-0>.

**5)** Rippe, James M. "Caffeine." *Encyclopedia of Lifestyle Medicine & Health*, edited by James M. Rippe, vol. 1, SAGE Reference, 2012, pp. 169-171. *Gale Virtual Reference Library*, <http://link.galegroup.com/apps/doc/CX1959000064/GVRL?u=cuny_hunter&sid=GVRL&xid=e00cae1a>

**6)** Urwin, Rosamund. "Count Me Out of This Caffeine-Addled Nightmare." *London Evening Standard* [London, England], 12 July 2010, p. 15. *General OneFile*, <http://link.galegroup.com/apps/doc/A231329356/ITOF?u=cuny_hunter&sid=ITOF&xid=7b1d23cb>.

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| --- | --- |
| **SOURCE TYPE** | **WHICH CITATION?** **(Type or write the number of the corresponding citation in this column)** |
| **Book or e-book** |  |
| **Scholarly Journal article** |  |
| **Entry from a general encyclopedia** |  |
| **Entry from a specialized encyclopedia** |  |
| **Newspaper article (report)** |  |
| **Newspaper article (opinion)** |  |

Part 2. Evaluating Source Types.

After identifying each source type in 3.1, click on the links to open and skim each source (you do not need to read them in full for this exercise). All of these sources cover the topic of caffeine, but in different ways. Think about what characteristics make each source type distinct. Below are some aspects to consider**.**

* **Authorship**: Who writes this kind of source?
* **Audience**: Is this written for the general public? For students? For professionals in a given field? Someone else?
* **Scope**: Does the source cover the topic broadly or does it narrow the focus to 1 or 2 specific aspects?
* **Depth**: Does the source go into detail about the topic, or does it only give an overview?
* **Originality**: Does the source include original findings by the author/s, or does it report on the findings of others? Or both?
* **Novelty**: Does the source report new information or information that has already been established?
* **Language & Tone**: Formal or informal? Impersonal or personal? Plain & simple language or jargon? Is the text understandable to a non-expert?
* **Purpose**: Was this written to educate? To share new information or a new argument? To entertain? To persuade? To make a political argument? As cultural commentary? Something else?

**You can use the space below to describe what distinguishes each of the source types listed. What makes it different from other kinds of sources? (Note that in this module, you only have to make 1 comment about one source type for to earn a point. This worksheet is for you to take further notes if you wish).**

* Book or e-book
* Journal article
* Entry from a general encyclopedia
* Entry from a specialized encyclopedia
* Newspaper article (report)
* Newspaper article (opinion)