

Checking the validity of information (P2)

Describe ways of checking the validity of information gathered from these sources.

Introduction

In this task I will be describing what validity is and main types of ways you can validate information. I will also show how reliable it is and were information is reliable.

Valid

Example: let's say I was surfing on the web while researching for a history class project when I stumbled on a site I'd never been to before. It was very bright, flashy and animated, and the web information stated that the civil war was in the U.S. last over 20 years and began in 1870! The website creator said that he was a Civil war expert, but as I read on, it became very clear to me that he was no expert. He didn't even know who fought in the war. Because he said the East fought the West.

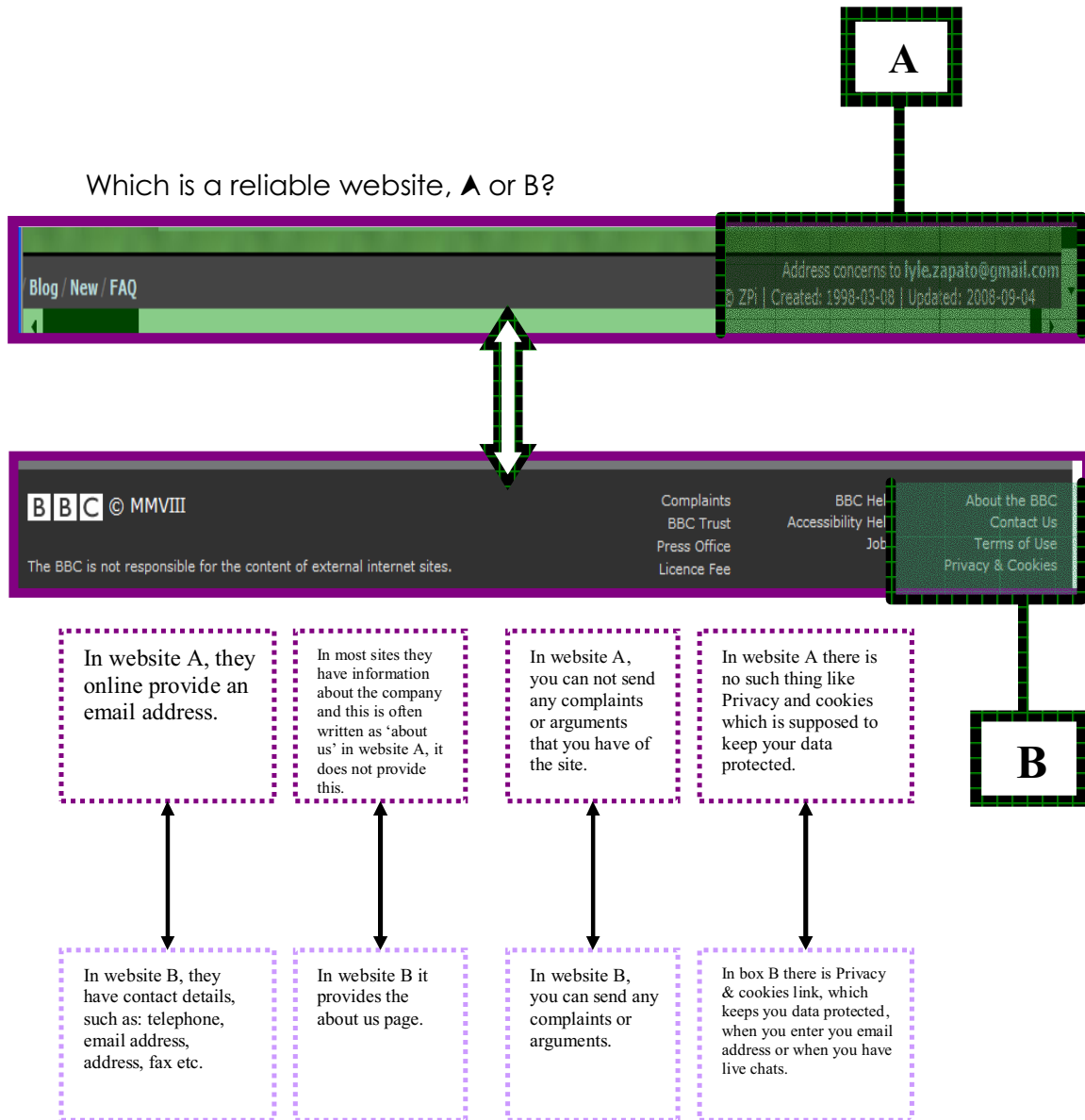
Information comes in all forms, because it is easy to access into a website, which is harmful and which is physically harmful and mentally. Especially for kids; more than a few young people have been affected by hidden dangers of bad websites.

▲ As you can see the internet offers a range of vast variety and quantity of the web pages that could be accessed by anyone who has internet. But you now that not everything is reliable. Websites can now be created by anyone with access to the internet, using variety of web-authoring tools. The URL may give a clue to site content; however lots of them are misleading. It is well know that many sites are used to promote unacceptable views; Such as sites promoting racism or religious bigotry or extreme political views. There are also a widespread profusion of pornography and violence on many sites.

▲ Routine in a data which enters a program that test the input for correct and responsible condition, such as account numbers falling within a range, numeric data being all digits, dates which have: a valid month, day and year.

If any mistake occurs, there could be huge problems like what happened in Japan in 2001, a Japanese stockbroker erroneously placed a sell order 610,000 shares of stocks at 16 an was supposed to write 16 shares of stock for 610,000 yen. Even do the error was found

out in 2 minutes, there was a huge disaster and the brokers' liability was estimated to be up to \$100 million dollars.



Box ▲ = <http://zapatopi.net/treeoctopus/>

Box B = <http://bbc.co.uk>

As you can see website ▲ is an unreliable, with unreliable information on the website and box B is a reliable website with reliable sources.

Check the validity of a website:

- Check the domain. If the site is supposed to be a site about education and does the domains address end in.edu.
- Read the "about us", and there should be contact information, as well as a clear detailed of who is responsible for creating and updating the site.
- Check the last update
- Compare similar sites and check other sites which are supposed to have similar information.
- Use your common sense, Like if there is a site which is supposed to conation educationally information, but talks about unrel ated information that doesn't make sense.

Checking the validity of information

Not all the information you receive from source like books, internet etc. are reliable and true. This is because people could have made simple mistakes, they misunderstood the facts and opinions and sometimes they deliberately mislead you for there own good.

You can check the validity of information in two ways:

- Check the source it self

Check the information against other sources

ICT SOURCE-Internet:

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- Check if it is up to date and look for the copy right sign.
- Check the sponsors and contact details.
- Cross check information with a book, to see it the information is reliable, compare it with other well know and reliable website or ask and expert.

ICT SOURCE-Intranet:

- Check if it is up to date and look for the copy right sign.
- Cross check information with a book, to see it the information is reliable, compare it with other well know and reliable website or ask and expert.

ICT SOURCE-Teletext:

- Cross check information on the internet,
- Check if the subtitles are exactly the same, as when the person is speaking on the TV

NON-ICT SOURCE-Book:

- Check the date of the book, to see if it has up to date information.
- Check if the book is written by an expert
- Cross check information using the internet or compare it with a similarly book, written by an expert.

- Check the company who published the book and see if it is a legal company, by looking it up at the internet or contacting the company.

NON-ICT SOURCE-Magazines:

- Check the date of the book and when it was published.
- Check by who the articles were written and compare it to an expert
- Cross check information online and using books.
- Check the company which magazine was published by; look if the company was well known.
- Check other magazines' which have similar articles and cross check the information.

NON-ICT SOURCE-Flyer:

- Check the date of the flyer and who published it, by looking it up or the place/person you got the flyer from.
- Check the purpose of the flyer and cross check the internet or ask an expert in this field.
- Check by who the flyer was published, look up the company and see if it is well known.
- Check if it has contact details, call the company and ask questions.