

## Adequate, Accurate, Appropriate

### Appropriate

Evidence is used appropriately when it

- Supports the thesis and the specific point. The evidence should be directly related to the thesis or point.
- It is appropriate for the intended audience.

Example:

Evidence about how bike helmets save lives is not appropriate for an expository article about the significance of Lance Armstrong's most recent win at the Tour de France.

Question to ask:

Does the evidence support the thesis?

## Adequate

Evidence is used adequately when:

- There is enough of it to support the thesis and point. Usually one piece of evidence is not enough to support an assertion or point.
- There is enough of it to satisfy the particular audience-some audiences will need more or different evidence.

Questions to ask:

- Is there enough evidence to support the thesis and point?
- Is the evidence provided enough to satisfy this particular audience?

### Accurate (True)

Evidence is used accurately when it:

Comes from a reliable source-the evidence you use is only as good as the source from which it came. Reliable sources are those that are trustworthy, knowledgeable, and list the sources (include where they got their information).

- Is the National Enquirer as reliable as the Los Angeles Times?

How do you know?

<http://www.latimes.com/>

<http://www.latimes.com>

<http://www.nationalenquirer.com/>

<http://www.nationalenquirer.com>

[www.weeklyworldnews.com](http://www.weeklyworldnews.com)

<http://www.weeklyworldnews.com>

- Is someone's personal website as reliable as one sponsored by a business or online newspaper?

- Comes from a current (or time-appropriate) source
- Comes from more than one source-as we learned earlier, writers have their own perspectives on a topic; therefore, the most accurate evidence is that which comes from multiple sources.

Questions to ask:

- Is the evidence from a reliable/dependable source?
- Is the source current?
- Does the evidence come from more than one source?