

# 5 Ways to Analyse an Information Source

## 1. SWOT Analysis:

- **Strengths** – What's Good About this source? How does it give you the answers you need to answer your question/s?
- **Weaknesses** – What's Bad about this source? How doesn't it give you the answers you need to answer your question/s?
- **Opportunities** – How might this information be used to find or develop further information (key contacts, links, other sources etc)?
- **Threats** – What could be wrong with this source? How could the information be misleading?

## 2. RIQ : 321

- **3 X Recalls** – Why and where was the source produced? Who produced it? What facts and figures does it explain?
- **2 X Insights** – What interesting information, thoughts and ideas does it make? What thoughts or insights do you have from using this source?
- **1 X Question** – What further questions do you have of this information source?

## 3. Pros, Cons and Questions (PCQ)

- **Pros** – What good information comes from this information source?
- **Cons** – What bad or not useful information comes from this information source?
- **Questions** – What further questions do you have from this source?

## 4. KWHL

**K** – What do you now **KNOW** about your topic / question from this source?

**W** – What further information do you **WANT** or need to still find out?

**H** – **How** will you find further information to support or balance the information from this source?

**L** – What information have you **LEARNT** from this source, what information do you still need to learn?

## 5. Icon Prompt



What is the good or useful information from this source?



What is the bad, not useful or un-interesting information from this source?



What is the value (monetary or to your question) of this source?



What questions do you have about this source?  
What further unanswered questions do you still have?

What is the quality of the source? (Consider bias, validity, usefulness, currency etc)