

## News / Media Websites

<http://www.dailystar.com.lb/Default.htm>  
<http://web.cyberia.net.lb/mectat/>

<http://www.vdl.com.lb/>  
<http://www.qonline.co.uk/>

The purpose of all of these pages is to: \_\_\_\_\_.  
These sites contain the letters: \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_ which stands for: \_\_\_\_\_.  
Of these four news websites, which do you like most? \_\_\_\_\_.  
Use this site to answer the following questions.

### 1. Authoritative?

- 1.1 What company or individual is responsible for this page? \_\_\_\_\_.
- 1.2 Is there a link describing the company ("about us")? \_\_\_\_\_.
- 1.3 Can you verify that this company really exists somewhere? \_\_\_\_\_.
- 1.4 Is there a non-web (print or TV) version of this news or media site? \_\_\_\_\_.
- 1.5 Is this site indexed under a Yahoo category? \_\_\_\_\_.
- 1.6 Are articles signed by the author (byline)? \_\_\_\_\_.
- 1.7 Are authors' positions and/or qualifications listed? \_\_\_\_\_.
- 1.8 Does the company list itself as the copyright holder? \_\_\_\_\_.

### 2. Accurate?

- 2.1 Are sources of information cited? \_\_\_\_\_.
- 2.2 Is the site free of grammatical errors? \_\_\_\_\_.
- 2.3 Is the site free of spelling mistakes or typos? \_\_\_\_\_.
- 2.4 Are there editors named? \_\_\_\_\_.

### 3. Objective?

- 3.1 Are advertisements clearly separated from the content of the site's content? \_\_\_\_\_.
- 3.2 Are editorials, opinion pieces and letters to the editor clearly labeled? \_\_\_\_\_.
- 3.3 Is the reporting style professional and free of bias? \_\_\_\_\_.

### 4. Up-to-date?

- 4.1 How often is the information updated? \_\_\_\_\_.
- 4.2 When was today's page updated? \_\_\_\_\_.
- 4.3 Does it list the date of the non-web version it corresponds to? \_\_\_\_\_.

### 5. Good Content?

- 5.1 Is there a page describing the content of this source? \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5.2 Does it say whether the print version is the same as the web version? \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5.3 Is there interactive content? (An email, comment page) \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5.4 Is there any offensive content (racial, religious or gender bias)? \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5.5 Is there a searchable archive? \_\_\_\_\_.

### 6. Good Design?

- 6.1 Do all pages follow a consistent design? \_\_\_\_\_.
- 6.2 Does the company's logo appear on the first page? \_\_\_\_\_.
- 6.3 Is the layout clear and simple (that is, professional-looking)? \_\_\_\_\_.
- 6.4 Is it easy to move around (index on left, site plan)? \_\_\_\_\_.
- 6.5 Is the homepage presented in a single screen, or do you have to scroll? \_\_\_\_\_.

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