

Evaluation of Historical Sources

- I. External Criticism (authenticity of source)
- II. Internal Criticism (Accuracy of information within text or source)
 - A. Positive Criticism (Ensure that statements made or meaning conveyed is correct)
 - B. Negative Criticism (Establishing the accuracy of the sources and documents used by a researcher)

Strategies for Checking

1. Checking for Vagueness and Presentism in interpretation
2. Corroboration --comparing with other sources
3. Sourcing--Information to identify source of document
4. Contextualization -- Identifying when and where something took place