Source: Can I Trust the Creators?

Find a news story that is interesting to you and that includes information/facts from at least two different individuals. Then use this chart to determine if it is a trustworthy source of information.

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| **News story title: Date:**  **Publication:**  **Writer(s): (If there are more than one, pick one to research and circle their name.)** |

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| **Publication** | **Writer** |
| Is there an About Page? (circle one): **YES / NO**  If so, summarize the information. | Is there a bio or info page? (circle one): **YES / NO**  If so, summarize the information. |
| Is there a parent company that owns the publication or another organization that funds it? If so, name it here. | Can you contact the writer via email or social media? (If yes, write their email or handle(s) here.) |
| What advertisements are on the page? Do any seem linked to suspicious products or services? | Does the writer have an active social media account(s)? How often do they post? Are their posts professional? |
| Do a search for the publication’s name and list two additional facts about it:  1.  2. | Have they written other stories for the same publication or other publications? List two examples of their work:  1.  2. |

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| Write one reason to trust this publication, if any. | Write one reason to trust this writer, if any. |
| Write one reason **not** to trust this publication, if any. | Write one reason **not** to trust the writer, if any. |

Now that you have determined whether you should trust who produced the story, let’s go deeper. Find two sources (people) who provided information for this story.

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| **Source #1** name and description (if unnamed, write anonymous): | **Source #2** name and description (if unnamed, write anonymous): |
| What information did this source provide? | What information did this source provide? |
| Search for the source’s name (if given) to find out:   1. Are they an expert on this topic? 2. Would they have a reason to know the information they provided to the writer? | Search for the source’s name (if given) to find out:   1. Are they an expert on this topic? 2. Would they have a reason to know the information they provided to the writer? |
| If the source is anonymous, why do you think the writer trusted them? | If the source is anonymous, why do you think the writer trusted them? |
| What else would you like to know about this source to determine how trustworthy they are? | What else would you like to know about this source to determine how trustworthy they are? |

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| On a scale of 1 to 10, where 1 is no trust and 10 is deep trust, rate your overall level of trust in this story:  Explain your rating. |