### Terms and Questions to Ask

#### Currency
- Is the publication active?
- When was the last issue published?
- Are issues published on a consistent, predictable basis?
- Are links to content across the site functional?
- If the site is inactive, will archived material meet your needs?

#### Relevance
- Does the work reflect or engage your literary aesthetic?
- Who is the intended audience?
- Is the work at an appropriate level?
- Would you be comfortable recommending this online publication to a fellow writer or literary enthusiast?
- Would you feel comfortable submitting your own work to this publication?

#### Authority
- Who sponsors and/or publishes this journal?
- With what organization or institution is the online publication affiliated?
- Who edits this journal?
- What are the editors' credentials? What are the contributors' credentials?
- Is the editor qualified to edit the journal? Are genre editors qualified to edit their respective genres?
- What accolades has the publication received, if any?
- Does the URL reveal anything about the publication (e.g., .com, .edu, .net, .org, .biz, .info)?

#### Accuracy
- Can you verify any of the information (e.g., credentials, research, attributions) in the publication in another source or from personal knowledge?
- Are there spelling, grammatical, or typographical errors?

#### Accessibility
- Is the online publication easy to navigate?
- Does the site seem organized in a logical manner?
- Do pieces appear on dedicated Web pages or does the content of each issue appear in its entirety on a single Web page?
- Is the text easy to read? Is content available in a print-friendly format?
- Are issues archived?
- Are current and/or past issues indexed (by author, genre, title, etc.)?
- Are there audio or video supplements?

#### Purpose
- What is the purpose of the online publication? Is it to further a specific aesthetic (e.g., experimental, formal) or highlight the literary products of a defined population (e.g., DC poets, transgender short-story writers, Asian-American playwrights)? Is it to sell you something (e.g., manuscript consulting, editing services)?
- Do editors/publishers make the purpose of the publication clear?
- Does the editorial tone appear objective and impartial?
- Are there political, ideological, cultural, religious, institutional, or personal biases?

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*This is an adaptation of the original CRAAP Test which was developed by librarians at the Meriam Library at California State University, Chico. Access: [http://www.csuchico.edu/lins/handouts/eval_websites.pdf](http://www.csuchico.edu/lins/handouts/eval_websites.pdf).*
Using the CRAAAP Test to Evaluate Online Literary Journals: An Exercise
D.S. Apfelbaum

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