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# **General Guidelines Overview**

### **Welcome to the Search Quality Rating Program!**

As a Search Quality Rater, you will work on many different types of rating projects. The General Guidelines primarily cover Page Quality (PQ) rating and Needs Met (NM) rating; however, the concepts are also important for many other types of rating tasks.

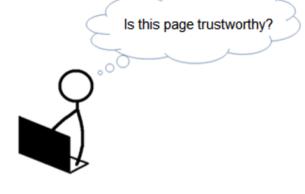
For brevity, we refer to "Search Quality Raters" as "raters" in these guidelines.





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# **Introduction to Search Quality Rating**

## 0.0 The Search Experience

The World Wide Web is a vast collection of online information and content. Internet search engines provide a powerful way to explore this online universe. There are many ways people search: people may type words into a search box in a browser, speak to a mobile phone or assistant device, use search engine autocomplete features, etc.

People search the Internet for a variety of purposes, ranging from accomplishing a quick task to researching a topic in depth. A search may be part of a long-term project, such as a home remodel or vacation planning. A search may be done when someone is bored and looking for entertainment, such as a search for [funny videos]. A search may be a single question asked during a critical moment of a person's life, such as [what are the symptoms of a heart attack?].

Search engines exist to help people find what they are looking for. To do that, search engines must provide a diverse set of helpful, high quality search results, presented in the most helpful order.

Different types of searches need very different types of search results. Medical search results should be high quality, authoritative, and trustworthy. Search results for [cute baby animal pictures] should be adorable. Search results for a specific website or webpage should have that desired result at the top. Searches that have many possible meanings or involve many perspectives need a diverse set of results that reflect the natural diversity of meanings and points of view.

People all over the world use search engines; therefore, diversity in search results is essential to satisfy the diversity of people who use search.

Finally, search results should help people. Search results should provide authoritative and trustworthy information, not lead people astray with misleading content. Search results should allow people to find what they're looking for, not surprise people with unpleasant, upsetting, offensive, or disturbing content. Harmful, hateful, violent, or sexually explicit search results are only appropriate if the person phrased their search in a way that makes it clear that they are looking for this type of content, **and** there is no other reasonable interpretation of the words used in their search.

### 0.1 The Purpose of Search Quality Rating

As a Search Quality Rater, you will help evaluate search engine quality around the world. Good search engines give results that are helpful for people in their own specific language and locale.

No single rating can directly impact how a particular webpage, website, or result appears in Google Search, nor can it cause specific webpages, websites, or results to move up or down on the search results page. Using ratings to position results on the search results page would not be feasible, as humans could never individually rate each page on the open web.

Instead, ratings are used to measure how effectively search engines are working to deliver helpful content to people around the world. Ratings are also used to improve search engines by providing examples of helpful and unhelpful results for different searches.

As part of your role in the search quality rating program, it is important that you are familiar with and comfortable using a search engine. We encourage you to be an expert in search! For example, experiment with using <u>operators</u> (e.g., quotes or a hyphen) in your searches or try using <u>advanced search</u> options.

# 0.2 Raters Must Represent People in their Rating Locale

It is very important for you to represent people in the locale you evaluate. You must be very familiar with the task language and location in order to represent the experience of people in your locale. If you do not have the knowledge to do this, please inform your employer/company.

Unless your rating task indicates otherwise, your ratings should be based on the instructions and examples given in these guidelines. Ratings should not be based on your personal opinions, preferences, religious beliefs, or political views. Always use your best judgment and represent the cultural standards of your rating locale.

### 0.3 Browser Requirements

Check with your employer/company for browser requirements. You may use helpful browser add-ons or extensions, but please do not use add-ons or extensions that interfere with or alter the user experience of the page.

## 0.4 Ad Blocking Extensions

Do not use add-ons or extensions that block ads for Needs Met rating or Page Quality rating. These add-ons or extensions may cause you to give incorrect ratings. As a rater, only use an ad blocking extension or add-on if specifically instructed to do so in the project-specific instructions.

# 0.5 Internet Safety Information

In the course of your work, you will visit many different webpages. Some of them may harm your computer unless you are careful. Please do not download any executables, applications, or other potentially dangerous files, or click on any links that you are uncomfortable with.

It is strongly recommended that you have antivirus and antispyware protection on your computer. This software must be updated frequently or your computer will not be protected. There are many free and for-purchase antivirus and antispyware products available on the web.

See here for a Wikipedia page on antivirus software and here for a Wikipedia page on spyware.

We suggest that you only open files with which you are comfortable. The file formats listed below are generally considered safe if antivirus software is in place.

- .txt (text files)
- .ppt or .pptx (Microsoft PowerPoint)
- .doc or .docx (Microsoft Word)
- .xls or .xlsx (Microsoft Excel)
- .pdf (PDF files) (Adobe Acrobat)

If you encounter a page with a warning message, such as "Warning-visiting this web site may harm your computer," or if your antivirus software warns you about a page, you should not try to visit the page to assign a rating.

# 0.6 The Role of Examples in these Guidelines

The rating concepts in these guidelines apply to all types of content. The examples throughout these guidelines are very important to illustrate how the concepts defined in each section should be applied in rating tasks for different types of webpages and different types of content.

Please view each example and keep the following in mind:

- Webpages and websites change rapidly, so we use images or "snapshots" of webpages in most of our examples.
- Because some types of content are difficult to view in "snapshot" form, a description of the webpage is provided for each example.
- The information in the examples was accurate at the time it was added, but content and websites may change over time.
- Some examples show pages on desktop and some show pages on mobile devices.

# **Part 1: Page Quality Rating Guideline**

# 1.0 Introduction to Page Quality Rating

A Page Quality (PQ) rating task consists of a URL and a grid to record your observations as you explore the landing page and the website associated with the URL. The goal of PQ rating is to evaluate how well the page achieves its purpose.

Here's what you'll need to be a successful Page Quality rater:

- Your experience using the web as an ordinary user in your rating locale.
- In-depth knowledge of these guidelines.
- And most importantly—practice doing PQ rating tasks!

# 2.0 Understanding Webpages and Websites

Page Quality rating requires an in-depth understanding of websites. We'll start with the basics. Along the way, we'll share important information about Page Quality rating, so please read through this section even if you are a website expert!

### 2.1 Important Definitions

Here are some important definitions:

A search engine is a tool to help people find or interact with content available on the Internet.

In these guidelines, the word "**user**" refers to a person trying to find information or accomplish a task on the Internet. Users are people from many different backgrounds, whose experiences and needs may differ from your own: people of all ages, genders, races, religions, political affiliations, etc.

A **webpage** is connected to the World Wide Web and can be viewed or "visited" using a web browser (e.g., Chrome), a browser on your phone, or a search app. In the 1990s, webpage content was mostly text and links. Today, webpage content includes many forms of media (such as images, videos, etc.) and functionality (such as online shopping features, email, calculator functionality, online games, etc.).

A **URL** is a string of letters, numbers, and punctuation that your web browser uses to "find" and display a webpage. Page Quality rating doesn't require you to have in-depth understanding of the structure of URLs, i.e., you don't need to know the difference between host, domain, etc. But if you are interested, see here to read more.

A **website** or **site** is a group of World Wide Web pages usually containing hyperlinks to each other and made available online by an individual, company, educational institution, government, or organization. Popular websites include Facebook, Wikipedia, Yahoo, YouTube, etc.

**Note**: In these guidelines, we will use the word "website" to refer to a collection of pages owned and controlled by a single entity (individual, business, etc.). But we will also use "website" to refer to major "independent" sections (or hosts) of some websites that were created to achieve separate purposes. For example, the Yahoo website is organized into different sections (or hosts), such as Yahoo Finance (<a href="finance.yahoo.com">finance.yahoo.com</a>), Yahoo Mail (<a href="mail.yahoo.com">mail.yahoo.com</a>), Yahoo Sports (<a href="mail.yahoo.com">sports.yahoo.com</a>), etc. Each of these has its own purpose. It's OK to refer to each of these sections as a website; for example, the Yahoo Finance website and the Yahoo Sports website. You may also refer to pages on Yahoo Finance or Yahoo Sports as belonging to the Yahoo website.

A **homepage** of a website is the main page of the site. It is usually the first page that users see when the site loads. For example, <a href="http://www.apple.com">http://www.apple.com</a> is the homepage of the Apple site, <a href="http://www.yahoo.com">http://www.yahoo.com</a> is the homepage of the Yahoo company site, and <a href="http://finance.yahoo.com">http://finance.yahoo.com</a> is the homepage of Yahoo Finance. You can usually find the homepage of a website by clicking on a "home" link or logo link on subpages of a website.

A website owner is the person, company, or organization who is responsible for a website.

A content creator is the individual(s) or entity (business, organization, etc.) who created the content on a webpage.

**Important**: You must be very comfortable exploring websites, both by clicking links and modifying URLs in the address bar of your web browser. Become a website detective and explorer!

## 2.2 Understanding the Purpose of a Webpage

The purpose of a page is the reason or reasons why the page was created. Every page on the Internet is created for a purpose, or for multiple purposes. Most pages are created to be helpful for people, thus having a beneficial purpose. Some pages are created merely to make money, with little or no effort to help people. Some pages are even created to harm users. The first step in understanding a page is figuring out its purpose.

Why is it important to determine the purpose of the page for PQ rating?

- The goal of PQ rating is to determine how well a page achieves its purpose. In order to assign a rating, you must understand the purpose of the page and sometimes the website.
- By understanding the purpose of the page, you'll better understand what criteria are important to consider when evaluating that particular page.
- Websites and pages should be created to help people. If that is not the case, a rating of Lowest may be warranted. More on this later.

As long as the page is created to help people, we will not consider any particular page purpose or type to be higher quality than another. For example, encyclopedia pages are not necessarily higher quality than humor pages.

**Important**: There are highest quality and lowest quality webpages of all different types and purposes: shopping pages, news pages, forum pages, video pages, pages with error messages, PDFs, images, gossip pages, humor pages, homepages, and all other types of pages. The type of page does not determine the PQ rating—you have to understand the purpose of the page to determine the rating.

Common helpful or beneficial page purposes include (but are not limited to):

- To share information about a topic.
- To share a personal experience, perspective, or feelings on a topic.
- To share pictures, videos, or other forms of media.
- To demonstrate a personal talent or skill.
- To express an opinion or point of view.
- To entertain.
- To offer products or services.
- To allow users to post questions for other users to answer.
- To allow users to share files or to download software.

Here are a few examples where it is easy to understand the purpose of the page:

Type of Page	Purpose of the Page
News website homepage	To inform users about recent or important events.
Shopping page	To sell or give information about the product.
Video page	To share a cute video of a cat.
Currency converter page	To calculate equivalent amounts in different currencies.

Here is an example (OmNomNomNom Page) of a helpful page where the purpose of the page is not as obvious. At first glance, this page may seem pointless or strange. However, it is a page from a humorous site that encourages users to post photos with mouths drawn on them. The purpose of the page is humor or artistic expression. This page has a helpful or beneficial purpose. Even though the <u>About</u> page on this website is not very helpful, the website explains itself on its <u>FAQ</u> page.

### 2.3 Your Money or Your Life (YMYL) Topics

Pages on the World Wide Web are about a vast variety of topics. Some topics have a high risk of harm because content about these topics could significantly impact the health, financial stability, or safety of people, or the welfare or well-being of society. We call these topics "Your Money or Your Life" or YMYL.

YMYL topics may significantly impact or harm one or more of the following:

- the person who is directly viewing or using the content
- other people who are affected by the person who viewed the content
- groups of people or society affected by the actions of people who viewed the content

YMYL topics can directly and significantly impact people's health, financial stability or safety, or the welfare or well-being of society, because of the following reasons:

- The topic itself is harmful or dangerous. For example, there is clear and present harm directly associated with topics related to self-harm, criminal acts, or violent extremism.
- The topic could cause harm if the content is not accurate and trustworthy. For example, mild inaccuracies or content from less reliable sources could significantly impact someone's health, financial stability, or safety, or impact society, for topics like: symptoms of a heart attack, how to invest money, what to do if there is an earthquake, who can vote, or needed qualifications for obtaining a driver's license.

To determine whether a topic is YMYL, assess the following types of harm that might occur:

- YMYL Health or Safety: Topics that could harm mental, physical, and emotional health, or any form of safety such as physical safety or safety online.
- YMYL Financial Security: Topics that could damage a person's ability to support themselves and their families.
- YMYL Society: Topics that could negatively impact groups of people, issues of public interest, trust in public institutions, etc.
- YMYL Other: Topics that could hurt people or negatively impact welfare or well-being of society.

It's possible to imagine a hypothetical harmful page for any non-harmful topic, such as the science behind rainbows or shopping for pencils: for either of these topics, someone could build a page that has a malicious computer virus download. However, for a specific topic to be YMYL, the topic itself must potentially impact people's health, financial stability, or safety, or the welfare or well-being of society.

Many or most topics are not YMYL and do not require a high level of accuracy or trust *to prevent harm*. Because YMYL assessment is a spectrum, it may be helpful to think of topics as clear YMYL, definitely not YMYL or something in between. Pages on clear YMYL topics require the most scrutiny for Page Quality rating.

Type of Topic	Clear YMYL Topic	May be YMYL Topic	Not or Unlikely YMYL Topic
Information  Could significant harm result from inaccurate information?	Evacuation routes for a tsunami  Explanation: Inaccurate information on evacuation routes could cause significant harm to people.	Weather forecast  Explanation: In most situations, slightly inaccurate information about the weather forecast will not cause harm. People often ask family members "what's the weather today".	Music award winners  Explanation: This topic is unlikely to cause harm.
Advice about an activity  Could significant harm result from poor advice?	When to go to the emergency room  Explanation: Bad advice on when to go to the emergency room could cause significant harm.	How often to replace a toothbrush  Explanation: This is a casual health topic people commonly discuss with friends. A slightly imperfect suggestion is unlikely to significantly impact health or safety.	How frequently to wash jeans  Explanation: This topic is unlikely to cause harm.
A personal opinion  What impact could this opinion have on other people and society?	Personal opinion about why a racial group is inferior  Explanation: Pages on this topic have been used to justify or incite violence against groups of people.	Personal opinion about why an exercise is inferior  Explanation: While there may be a health concern if the exercise is extreme or risky, most discussions of jogging vs swimming, etc. involve personal preference.	Personal opinion about why a rock band is inferior  Explanation: This topic is unlikely to cause harm, although there may be strong opinions involved!
News about current events  Could this topic significantly impact people and society?  For societal impact, consider issues such as elections and trust in public institutions that benefit society.	News about ongoing violence  Explanation: People need accurate information to stay safe. Society may also be impacted by information about ongoing violence, as citizens and governments make civic decisions accordingly.	News about a car accident  Explanation: The accident itself may have been harmful, but there is likely little risk of future harm from small inaccuracies in reporting about an incident.	News about a local high school basketball game  Explanation: This topic is unlikely to cause harm.
Sharing on social media  Could the social media post cause significant harm?  Could it hurt individuals?  Could it damage society if widely shared?	A tide pod challenge post  Explanation: This harmful social media challenge was responsible for deaths.	A hot sauce challenge  Explanation: While some people may experience some discomfort by tasting various hot sauces, it is unlikely that sharing about such challenges would cause significant harm.	A music video  Explanation: This type of content generally has little risk of harm.
Online commerce and product reviews  Consider the product. Could the product cause significant harm?	Purchasing prescription drugs  Explanation: Prescription drugs have the potential to cause harm and require purchase from licensed pharmacies.	Review of a type of car  Explanation: While cars are big purchases, many people ask friends and family about cars.	Purchasing pencils  Explanation: Pencils and other everyday items are unlikely to cause harm.

If you are having trouble deciding whether a topic is YMYL, consider the following questions:

- 1. Would a careful person seek out experts or highly trusted sources to prevent harm? Could even minor inaccuracies cause harm? If yes, then the topic is likely YMYL.
- 2. Is the specific topic one that most people would be content with only casually consulting their friends about? If yes, the topic is likely not YMYL.

**Important**: For pages about clear YMYL topics, we have very high Page Quality rating standards because low quality pages on such topics could potentially negatively impact a person's health, financial stability, or safety, or the welfare or well-being of society.

### 2.4 Understanding Webpage Content

All of the content on a webpage can be classified as one of the following: Main Content (MC), Supplementary Content (SC), or Advertisements/Monetization (Ads). In order to understand the purpose of a webpage and do PQ rating, you will need to be able to distinguish among these different parts of the page.

Webpage design can be complicated, so make sure to click around and explore the page. See what kind of content is behind the tabs and test out the interactive page features. Content behind the tabs may be considered part of the MC, SC, or Ads, depending on what the content is.

### 2.4.1 Identifying the Main Content (MC)

Main Content is any part of the page that directly helps the page achieve its purpose. MC can be text, images, videos, page features (e.g., calculators, games), and it can be content created by website users, such as videos, reviews, articles, comments posted by users, etc. Tabs on some pages lead to even more information (e.g., customer reviews) and can sometimes be considered part of the MC.

The MC also includes the title at the top of the page (<u>example</u>). Descriptive MC titles allow users to make informed decisions about what pages to visit. Helpful titles summarize the MC on the page.

Type of Page and Purpose	MC Highlighted in Yellow
News website homepage: the purpose is to inform users about recent or important events.	MC - News Homepage
News article page: the purpose is to communicate information about an event or news topic.	MC - News Article
Store product page: the purpose is to sell or give information about the product.  • Content behind the Reviews, Shipping, and Safety Information tabs are considered to be part of the MC.	MC - Shopping Page
Currency converter page: the purpose is to calculate equivalent amounts in different currencies.	MC - Currency Converter
Blog post page: the purpose is to share music used on a TV show.	MC - Blog Post Page
Search engine homepage: the purpose is to allow users to enter a query and search the Internet.	MC - Search Engine Homepage
Bank login page: the purpose is to allow users to log in to bank online.	MC - Bank Login Page

#### 2.4.2 Identifying the Supplementary Content (SC)

Supplementary Content contributes to a good user experience on the page, but does not directly help the page achieve its purpose. SC is an important part of the user experience. One common type of SC is navigation links that allow users to visit other parts of the website. In some cases, content behind tabs may be considered part of the SC.

Sometimes the easiest way to identify SC is to look for the parts of the page that are not MC or Ads.

Type of Page and Purpose	SC Highlighted in Blue
News article page: the purpose is to communicate information about an event or news topic.	SC - News Article
Store product page: the purpose is to sell or give information about the product.	SC - Shopping Page
Blog post page: the purpose is to share music used on a TV show.	SC - Blog Post Page

#### 2.4.3 Identifying Advertisements/Monetization (Ads)

Ads may contribute to a good user experience. Advertisements/Monetization (Ads) is content and/or links that are displayed for the purpose of monetizing (making money from) the page. The presence or absence of Ads is not by itself a reason for a **High** or **Low** quality rating. Without advertising and monetization, some webpages could not exist because it costs money to maintain a website and create high quality content.

There are many different ways to monetize a webpage, including advertisements and affiliate programs. See <a href="here">here</a> for more information on website monetization. Note that monetization on mobile pages may be more subtle than monetization on desktop pages.

The most common type of monetization is advertisements. Ads may be labeled as "ads," "sponsored links," "sponsored listings," "sponsored results," etc. Ads may change when you reload the page, and different users may see different Ads on the same page.

Website owners can choose to display Ads on their page (such as by joining an <u>advertising network</u>), but they may not always directly control the content of the Ads. However, we will consider a website responsible for the overall quality of the Ads displayed.

**Important:** For the purpose of these guidelines, we will consider monetized links of any type to be "Ads." See <a href="here">here</a> for different types of website monetization.

Type of Page and Purpose	Ads Highlighted in Red
News article page: the purpose is to communicate information about an event or news topic.	Ads - News Article
Blog post page: the purpose is to share music used on a TV show.	Ads - Blog Post Page
Store product page: the purpose is to sell or give information about the product.	No ads – Shopping Page

#### 2.4.4 Summary of the Parts of the Page

Let's put it all together.

- Main Content (MC) is any part of the page that directly helps the page achieve its purpose. MC is (or should be!) the reason the page exists. The quality of the MC plays a very large role in the Page Quality rating of a webpage.
- **Supplementary Content (SC)** is also important. SC can help a page better achieve its purpose or it can detract from the overall experience.
- Many pages have advertisements/monetization (Ads). Without advertising and monetization, some webpages
  could not exist because it costs money to maintain a website and create high quality content. The presence or
  absence of Ads is not by itself a reason for a High or Low quality rating.

On some pages, user reviews and comments may be considered MC, and on other pages they may be considered SC. Use your best judgment and think about the purpose of the page.

Do not worry too much about identifying every little part of the page. Think about which parts of the page are the MC. Next, look for the Ads. Anything left over can be considered SC.

Type of Page and Purpose	MC, SC, & Ads Highlighted
News article page: the purpose is to communicate information about an event or news topic.	Summary - News Article
Store product page: the purpose is to sell or give information about the product.	Summary - Shopping Page
Currency converter page: the purpose is to calculate equivalent amounts in different currencies.	Summary - Currency Converter
Blog post page: the purpose is to share music used on a TV show.	Summary - Blog Post Page
Bank login page: the purpose is to allow users to log in to the bank online.	Summary - Bank Login Page

# 2.5 Understanding the Website

Pages often make more sense when viewed as part of a website. Some of the criteria in Page Quality rating are based on understanding the website that the page belongs to.

To understand a website, start by finding out who is responsible for the website and who created the content on the page (more information provided in <u>Section 2.5.2</u>). Then, look for information about the website and/or content creators on the website itself. Websites and content creators are usually very eager to tell you all about themselves!

You must also look for reputation information about the website and/or content creators. What do outside, independent sources say about them? When there is disagreement between what the website or content creators say about themselves and what reputable independent sources say, trust the independent sources.

### 2.5.1 Finding the Homepage

The homepage of a website usually contains or has links to important information about the website. Website owners usually make it easy to get to the homepage from any page on the site.

Here's how to find the homepage of a website:

- 1. Examine the landing page of the URL in your PQ rating task.
- 2. Find and click on the link labeled with the name or logo of the website (occasionally labeled as "home" or "main"), which usually appears at the top of the page.

Sometimes, you may be given a webpage or website that appears to have no navigation links, no homepage link, and no logo or other means to find the homepage. Even some **High** or **Highest** quality pages lack a way to navigate to the homepage. If you can't find a link to the homepage, modify the URL by removing everything to the right of ".com," ".org," ".net," ".fr," etc. and refresh the page.

Occasionally, your rating task will include a URL for which there are two or more justifiable "homepage" candidates. For example, you may not be sure whether the homepage of the URL <a href="https://finance.yahoo.com/calendar">https://finance.yahoo.com/calendar</a> is <a href="https://finance.yahoo.com">http://www.yahoo.com</a>.

**Important**: When you have more than one homepage "candidate," please use whichever one offers the most information about the specific webpage in the rating task. Use your judgment. The goal is to understand the webpage and the website(s) it is associated with, not find the one unique, correct homepage.

In the following examples, we have included the URL of the page to be evaluated in the rating task, as well as the URL of its associated homepage. We have also included an image that shows where to click on the landing page to navigate to the homepage. In the image, you will see a red box around the link or logo you would click to navigate to the homepage.

URL of the Task Page	Homepage of the Website	Where to click to get to the Homepage
http://www.williams-sonoma.c om/products/shun-premier-7- piece-knife-block-set	http://www.williams-sonoma.com	WILLIAMS SONOMA  This "WILLIAMS-SONOMA" logo shown in the upper center of the page is clickable and takes users to the homepage of the website.
http://hms.harvard.edu/about- hms/facts-figures	http://hms.harvard.edu  In this case, we will consider the Harvard Medical School page at http://hms.harvard.edu to be the homepage, rather than http://www.harvard.edu (which is the homepage of Harvard University). Clicking the logo at the top of http://hms.harvard.edu/about-hms/facts-figures takes users to http://hms.harvard.edu, not to http://www.harvard.edu.	Harvard Medical School Facts and Figures Page  HARVARD  MEDICAL SCHOOL  This "Harvard Medical School" logo in the upper left part of the page is clickable and takes users to the homepage of the Harvard Medical School website.

#### 2.5.2 Finding Who is Responsible for the Website and Who Created the Content on the Page

Every page belongs to a website, and it should be clear:

- Who (what individuals, company, business, organization, government agency, etc.) is responsible for the website.
- Who (what individuals, company, business, organization, government agency, etc.) created the content on the
  page you are evaluating. Note that for pages on websites such as forums and social media platforms, people
  may post content using an alias or username in order to avoid sharing personally identifiable information online.
  In these cases, the alias or username is an acceptable way to identify the content creator.

Websites are usually very clear about who is responsible for the website and who created the content on the page. There are many reasons for this:

- People may want to showcase their own personal talent, experiences, and perspectives.
- Artists, authors, musicians, and other original content creators may want to be known and appreciated.
- Commercial websites may have copyrighted material they want to protect.
- Businesses and organizations may want people to know who they are and what they do.
- Stores want customers to feel comfortable buying their products online.

Most websites have "contact us" or "about us" or "about" pages that provide information about who owns the site. Many companies have an entire website or blog devoted to who they are and what they are doing, what jobs are available, etc. Here are some examples:

- Google Official Blog
- Marriott Blog
- Southwest Airlines Blog
- Netflix Tech Blog

In PQ rating tasks, you will need to identify who created the MC on the page. To help you do so, the table below describes the primary content creators for common webpage types. These types can overlap (e.g., a page may have multiple articles, some written by individual authors or journalists and others written by the website owner).

Webpage Type	Examples	Primary Content Creator(s)
The website owner created the page and much of the MC on the page  The page may have comments, reviews, or other content posted by users, but the page itself is the responsibility of the website.	<ul> <li>Homepage of a business website</li> <li>Introductory page on a personal website</li> <li>Product page on an online merchant website</li> </ul>	The website itself can be viewed as the primary content creator. Website owners may have content created on their behalf (e.g., a small business may hire a professional web developer to build their website), but they are ultimately responsible for the MC.  User comments and reviews may play a significant role on the page. As long as the website creates and actively maintains the page, the website is considered to be the primary content creator.
The website owner created the page, and the MC is produced by authors or other content creators identified by the website  The website decides what to publish and is responsible for the content, but there are distinct authors or content creators who provide the MC on the page.	<ul> <li>Newspaper opinion piece written by the editorial board</li> <li>Magazine article written by an individual journalist</li> <li>Scientific journal paper written by a team of academic researchers</li> </ul>	The primary content creators are the journalists, scientists, etc. listed as authors of the content. Often the content creators are individuals, but an organization, company, or institution may also be the content creator.  User comments may be present, but they typically are not the focus of the page.
The webpage consists of social media post(s) from a single account representing an individual content creator or organization  The social media website owner enables people and organizations to create accounts to post text, images, videos, and other types of content under their account.	<ul> <li>Social media post</li> <li>Local business profile page on a social media website</li> <li>Video channel on a video sharing website</li> </ul>	The primary content creator is the person or organization who created the account and is posting the MC. There may be information about the content creator on a profile page found on the website.  Other user comments and reactions such as "likes" may be considered part of the MC.
The webpage is created by multiple users engaging in discussion or posting on social media  The website owner enables people to post text, images, and videos or have conversations with other users of the website.	<ul> <li>Forum discussion thread</li> <li>Q&amp;A question page</li> <li>Search results page on a social media website showing content from many different users</li> </ul>	The people posting are the content creators.  There is no single primary content creator, and people may be identified only by aliases or usernames.

#### 2.5.3 Finding About Us, Contact Information, and Customer Service Information

Many websites are interested in communicating with their users. There are many reasons that users might have for contacting a website, from reporting problems such as broken pages, to asking for content removal. Many websites offer multiple ways for users to contact the website: email addresses, phone numbers, physical addresses, web contact forms, etc. Sometimes, this contact information is even organized by department and provides the names of individuals to contact.



The types and amount of contact information needed depend on the type of website. Contact information and customer service information are extremely important for websites that handle money, such as stores, banks, credit card companies, etc. Users need a way to ask questions or get help when a problem occurs.

For shopping websites, we'll ask you to do some special checks. Look for contact information—including the store's policies on payment, exchanges, and returns. Sometimes this information is listed under "customer service."

Some kinds of websites need fewer details and a smaller amount of contact information for their purpose. For example, humor websites may not need the level of detailed contact information we would expect from online banking websites.

Occasionally, you may encounter a website or content creator with a legitimate reason for anonymity. For example, personal websites may omit personal contact information such as an individual's home address or phone number. Similarly, websites with user-generated content may allow the author to identify themself with an alias or username only.

To find contact or customer service information for a website, start with the homepage. Look for a "contact us" or "customer service" link. Explore the website if you cannot find a "contact us" page. Sometimes you will find the contact information on a "corporate site" link or even on the company's official social media page. Be a detective!

Note that different locales and different social media platforms may have their own conventions and standards for what information should be available on the website. Please use your judgment and knowledge of your locale.

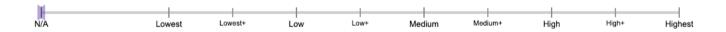
# 3.0 Overall Page Quality Rating

Now that you are an expert in understanding websites and webpages, here are the high-level steps of Page Quality rating:

- 1. Assess the true purpose of the page. If the website or page has a harmful purpose or is designed to deceive people about its true purpose, it should be rated **Lowest**.
- 2. Assess the potential of the page to cause harm as described in these guidelines. Websites or pages that are harmful to people or society, untrustworthy, or spammy as defined in these guidelines should be rated **Lowest**.
- 3. Otherwise, the PQ rating is based on how well the page achieves its purpose as described in these guidelines.

**Important**: There are harmful pages that are seemingly "official", "expert", or "authoritative". Any type of website may have pages with harmful MC, from user-uploaded videos and forum posts to harmful products sold online to pages to pages that mimic the look of scientific papers or encyclopedia entries. All pages should be evaluated for harm—including pages on government websites, academic institutions, reputable online stores, charities, or other types of generally helpful websites.

On Page Quality rating tasks, you will use the Page Quality sliding scale (slider) to assign the overall PQ rating. The slider looks like this:



You may also use the in-between ratings of **Lowest+**, **Low+**, **Medium+**, and **High+**. Please interpret the "+" as "+ ½," meaning that the **Lowest+** rating is halfway between **Lowest** and **Low**, **Low+** is halfway between **Low** and **Medium**, etc.

Identifying **Lowest** and **Low** quality pages can be the most difficult part of PQ rating. The guidance in the sections on **Lowest** and **Low** is more extensive to help you rate accurately. **High** and **Highest** quality pages are typically easier to identify, but be sure to apply the standards and examine the examples throughout these guidelines to help calibrate your ratings. As might be expected, **Medium** quality pages are commonly found online.

### 3.1 Page Quality Rating Considerations

The following table summarizes the things that you should consider in Page Quality rating. Upcoming sections of these guidelines will elaborate on these considerations and explain how they apply to pages across the PQ rating scale.

Consideration	Why it's Important for Page Quality Rating
The purpose of the page	If the page has a harmful purpose, or if it is designed to deceive people about its true purpose or who is responsible for the content, it should be rated <b>Lowest</b> .
	Otherwise, PQ rating is the process of determining how well a page achieves its purpose.
The potential for the page or website to cause harm as described in these guidelines	Websites or pages that are harmful to people or society, untrustworthy, or spammy as described in these guidelines should be rated <b>Lowest</b> .
The topic of the page and the extent to which that topic is YMYL	The topic of the page helps determine the standards for your overall PQ assessment. Pages on YMYL topics have higher standards than pages on non-YMYL topics.

Consideration	Why it's Important for Page Quality Rating
The type of website	Different types of websites and webpages have different expectations for PQ rating. For example, PQ expectations may differ for:
	<ul> <li>Small hobbyist websites vs. large corporate websites</li> <li>Websites involving financial transactions vs. websites that do not require payment or collect personal information</li> <li>Websites with content created by ordinary people on a volunteer basis vs. websites with content created by professionals</li> </ul>
Information provided by the website and content creator	While the information that websites and content creators provide about themselves isn't always trustworthy, it can provide an important starting point.
Quality of the MC	Consider the extent to which the MC is satisfying and helps the page achieve its purpose.
The title of the page	The title of the page is considered part of the MC. Descriptive MC titles that summarize the page allow people to make informed decisions about what pages to visit.
The role of Ads and SC on the page	Consider the ways in which the Ads and SC contribute to how people experience the page.
	<b>Remember</b> : Many websites need monetization to share content with users. The presence or absence of Ads alone is not a consideration for PQ rating.
Reputation of the website and content creator	Research the reputation of the website and the content creator to learn about how others view the website and who is behind it.
Trustworthiness of the page: E-E-A-T	Assess how trustworthy the page is. Experience, Expertise and Authoritativeness can help with your assessment of Trust. Some types of pages require a high level of Trust.

**Important**: These considerations overlap. For example, while examining the quality of the MC, you may notice factual inaccuracies that lower your assessment of Trust. While conducting reputation research, you may find information about the expertise of the content creator which increases your level of Trust. This is how PQ rating is designed to work!

### 3.2 Quality of the Main Content

The quality of the Main Content (MC) is one of the most important considerations for PQ rating. The MC plays a major role in determining how well a page achieves its purpose.

The unifying theme for evaluating the quality of the MC is the extent to which the MC allows the page to achieve its purpose and offers a satisfying user experience. For most pages, the quality of the MC can be determined by the amount of **effort**, **originality**, and **talent or skill** that went into the creation of the content. For informational pages and pages on YMYL topics. **accuracy** and consistency with well established expert consensus is important.

Effort: Consider the extent to which a human being actively worked to create satisfying content. Effort may be direct, such as a person translating a poem from one language to another. Effort may go into designing page functionality or building systems that power a webpage, such as the creation of a page that offers machine translation as a service to users. On the other hand, the automatic creation of thousands of pages by running existing freely available content through existing translation software without any oversight, manual curation, \*\* etc., would not be considered to have human effort. For pages like social media posts or forum discussions, the level of participation and depth of conversation is an important part of effort. Contributions from multiple individuals on such pages can add up to a significant amount of total human effort. **Originality**: Consider the extent to which the content offers unique, original content that is not available on other websites. If other websites have similar content, consider whether the page is the original source. Talent or Skill: Consider the extent to which the content is created with enough talent and skill to provide a 2, satisfying experience for people who visit the page. **Accuracy**: For informational pages, consider the extent to which the content is factually accurate. For pages ΙZ on YMYL topics, consider the extent to which the content is accurate and consistent with well-established expert consensus.

The purpose of the page, topic of the page, and type of website all play a role in how to evaluate the quality of the MC. For example, consistency with well-established expert consensus is important for medical advice. Skill is important for how-to videos. Talent and originality is important for artistic expression. The amount of effort expected for a short video shared on social media is less than for a full-length, professionally produced documentary on a streaming video website, but both need sufficient effort to create satisfying content for their purpose. Think about what effort, originality, talent, or skill looks like for the type of page that you are evaluating.

For each page you evaluate, spend a few minutes examining the MC before drawing a conclusion about it. Read the article, watch the video, examine the pictures, use the calculator, play the online game, etc. Remember that MC also includes page features and functionality, so test the page out. For example, if the page is a product page on a store website, put at least one product in the cart to make sure the shopping cart is functioning. If the page is an online game, try to play the game yourself. Do your best to imagine that you are someone who's very interested in the topic, functionality, or purpose served by the page, then think about how satisfying the MC would be for that person.

High and low quality MC comes in all formats (e.g., text, audio, video, images) and all lengths (e.g., short-form videos and full-length professional documentaries). High and low quality content also exists on all types of websites, from small personal sites to large corporate sites, from forums and social media to websites that handle financial transactions. Think carefully about what helps the page achieve its purpose and what makes the MC satisfying for users.

#### 3.3 Reputation of the Website and Content Creators

An important part of PQ rating is understanding the reputation of the website. If the website is not the primary creator of the MC, it's important to research the reputation of the content creator as well.

Reputation research should be performed according to the topic of the page. For example, if the page contains medical information, research the reputation of the website and content creator for providing medical information. It's possible for a website to be a go-to source for one type of content (e.g., humorous videos), but an untrustworthy source for a different type of content (e.g., financial information).

A website's or content creator's reputation can also help you understand what a website or content creator is best known for. For example, newspapers may be known for high quality, independent investigative reporting while satire websites may be known for their humor. An individual journalist (content creator) may be known for the clarity of their scientific articles while a food blogger (content creator) may be known for the deliciousness of the recipes they post online.

Note that a company or person may create content on many different websites. For example, a newspaper might have their own website, upload their video content to a video sharing website, post updates on social media, and contribute content to a TV channel. An expert on a topic might publish research papers, have a lengthy blog, and share short updates on social media. In these cases, you should research the underlying company or content creator.

Reputation research is especially important for detecting untrustworthy websites and content creators. Content may look great on the surface, but reputation research can expose scams, fraud, or other signs of harm. You never know what you will find unless you look! Therefore, reputation research is required for all PQ rating tasks.

### 3.3.1 Reputation of the Website

A website's reputation is based on the experience of real users and the opinions of people who are experts. Websites may represent real companies, organizations, and other entities. Reputation research applies to both the website and the actual company, organization, or entity that the website is representing.

Many websites are eager to tell users how great they are. Your job is to independently evaluate the Page Quality of the website, not just accept information that appears on one or two pages of the website without further verification. Be skeptical of claims that websites make about themselves, particularly when there is a clear conflict of interest.

Instead, look for independent reviews, references, recommendations by experts, news articles, and other sources of credible information about the website. Look for information written by a person or organization, not statistics or other machine-compiled information. News articles, Wikipedia articles, blog posts, magazine articles, forum discussions, and ratings from independent organizations can all be great sources of reputation information.

For YMYL topics, the reputation of a website should be judged by what experts in the field have to say. Recommendations from expert sources, such as professional societies, are strong evidence of a positive reputation.

Sources of reputation information will also vary according to the topic or type of company/organization/entity that the website represents. For example, you might find that a newspaper (with an associated website) has won journalistic awards. Prestigious awards or a history of high-quality original reporting are strong evidence of positive reputation for news websites.

Note that some types of information about a website is not related to its reputation. For example, websites like <u>Similarweb</u> have information about Internet traffic to the website, but do not provide evidence of positive or negative reputation. You can ignore this type of information since it's not helpful for PQ rating.

#### 3.3.2 Customer Reviews as Reputation Information

Customer reviews can be helpful for assessing the reputation of a store, business, or any website that offers products or services to users. You may consider a large number of detailed, trustworthy, positive user reviews as evidence of positive reputation for a store or business.

However, you should interpret customer reviews with care, particularly if there are only a few. Keep the following in mind:

- **Be skeptical of both positive and negative reviews.** Anyone can write them, including the website owner or someone whom the store or business hires for this purpose.
- Try to find as many reviews as possible. Any store or business can get a few negative reviews—this is completely normal and expected. Large stores and companies receive thousands of reviews, and most receive some negative ones.
- Read the reviews because the content of the reviews matter, not just the number or star rating. Credible, convincing reports of fraud and financial wrongdoing is evidence of extremely negative reputation. On the other hand, a single encounter with a rude clerk or the delayed receipt of a single package should not be considered negative reputation information. Please use your judgment.

#### 3.3.3 How to Search for Reputation Information about a Website

Here is how to research the reputation of the website:

- 1. Identify the "homepage" of the website. For example, for the IBM website, ibm.com is the homepage. You may need to identify the content creator, if it is different from that of the overall website.
- 2. Using ibm.com as an example, try one or more of the following searches on Google:
  - [ibm -site:ibm.com] A search for IBM that excludes pages on ibm.com.
  - ["ibm.com" -site:ibm.com] A search for "ibm.com" that excludes pages on ibm.com.
  - [ibm reviews -site:ibm.com] A search for reviews of IBM that excludes pages on ibm.com.
  - ["ibm.com" reviews -site:ibm.com] A search for reviews of "ibm.com" that excludes pages on ibm.com.

**Note**: When searching for reputation information, try to find sources that were not written or created by the website or the company itself. For example, IBM might have official social media pages that it closely maintains, which would not be considered independent sources of reputation information about the company. See <a href="here">here</a> for a Wikipedia article on identifying and using independent sources.

3. Look for articles, references, recommendations by experts, and other credible information written by people about the website.

High quality news articles and informational articles may be good sources of reputation information. Search for such articles. For example, try [ibm site:en.wikipedia.org]. News articles and informational articles can help you learn about a company and may include information specific to reputation, such as awards and other forms of recognition, or also controversies and issues. Note that some informational articles include a message warning users that there are disagreements on some of the content, or that the content may be outdated. This may be an indication that additional research is necessary.

4. Make sure the information you find is appropriate for judging the reputation of the website. For example, reputation information for YMYL topics should come from sources that have expertise in the associated YMYL topic.

Here are some examples of reputation information:

Website	Reputation Information About the Website	Description
annualcreditreport.com	Search results for [annualcreditreport.com -site:annualcreditreport.com]  Wikipedia article about annualcreditreport.com  Reputable article about annualcreditreport.com	Positive reputation information: Users in the U.S. can obtain free credit reports on this website by providing their Social Security Number. Note that the Wikipedia article tells us that "AnnualCreditReport.com is the only federally mandated and authorized source for obtaining a free credit report."
clevelandclinic.org	Search results for [clevelandclinic.org]  Wikipedia article about clevelandclinic.org  Reputable article about the best hospitals in the U.S.	Positive reputation information: According to Wikipedia, the Cleveland Clinic "is currently regarded as one of the top 4 hospitals in the United States" which can be confirmed by reputable news articles cited in the references section. Users can trust medical information on this website.
csmonitor.com	Search results for [csmonitor.com -site:csmonitor.com]  Wikipedia article about The Christian Science Monitor	Positive reputation information: Notice the highlighted section in the Wikipedia article about The Christian Science Monitor newspaper, which tells us that the newspaper has won several prestigious awards. From this information, it can be inferred that the csmonitor.com website has a positive reputation.
kernel.org	Search results for [kernel.org –site:kernel.org] Wikipedia article about kernel.org	Positive reputation information: According to the Wikipedia article, "Kernel.org is a main repository of source code for the Linux kernel, the base of the popular Linux operating system. It makes all versions of the source code available to all users. It also hosts various other projects, like Google Android. The main purpose of the site is to host a repository for Linux kernel developers."
Site selling children's jungle gym	Search to find reputation information Search to find reviews Negative review on a business review page 1 Negative review on a business review page 2 Negative news article	Extremely negative reputation information: This website appears to be a perfectly fine-looking store; however, much evidence of negative reputation can be found. The business has a very low rating on a business review site. There is a news article about financial fraud. There are many reviews on different websites describing users sending money and not receiving anything.
Site selling products related to eyewear	Search to find reputation information  Negative review on a business review page  Wikipedia article  Article about business' criminal behavior	Extremely negative/malicious reputation information: This website engaged in criminal behavior such as physically threatening users.
Organization serving the hospitalized veteran community	Negative review 1 Negative review 2 Negative review 3 Negative review 4	Extremely negative reputation information: There are many detailed negative articles on news sites and charity watchdog sites about this organization describing fraud and financial mishandling.

#### 3.3.4 Reputation of the Content Creators

For individual authors and content creators, biographical information articles and online discussions can be a good source of reputation information. Expect to find more formal reputation information about people who create content in a journalistic, scientific, academic, or other traditionally professional capacity, as they often need online credibility for professional success. Educational degrees, peer validation, expert co-authors, and citations can be evidence of positive reputation information for professionals who publish their work. Employment history can also support a positive reputation for topics where training, credentials, or experience are important.

Influencers and other individual content creators who earn income on social media platforms often have reputation information available as well, ranging from from biographical details or news articles to less formal reputation sources such as comments by other influencers in their fields.

For non-professional content creators including ordinary people who post on social media or forums, you may find informal reputation information on the page itself such as comments by other people about the creators. For example, you may find comments or posts from other users helpful to see what other people think about a particular content creator.

#### 3.3.5 What to Do When You Find No Reputation Information

You should expect to find some reputation information for large websites and well-known content creators. People or businesses who create content in a professional capacity typically have some reputation information available.

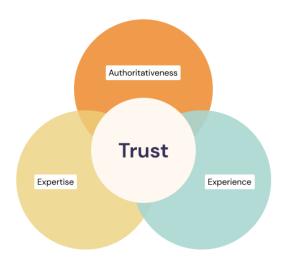
However, small websites may have little or no reputation information. This is not indicative of high or low quality. Many small local businesses or community organizations have a small "web presence" and rely on word of mouth.

Furthermore, many ordinary people participate in forum discussions or post on social media websites in a personal capacity. People may use an alias or username to post in order to avoid sharing personally identifiable information online. There may be no reputation information available for some individuals. A lack of reputation about people who post personal content is neither a positive nor a negative sign in your assessment of the page.

Finally, remember that there are several important considerations involved in PQ rating (refer back to <u>Section 3.1</u>). Reputation is important, but if reputation information is not available for a website or content creator, pay extra attention to other PQ considerations, especially when assessing pages on YMYL topics.

### 3.4 Experience, Expertise, Authoritativeness, and Trust (E-E-A-T)

Experience, Expertise, Authoritativeness and Trust (E-E-A-T) are all important considerations in PQ rating. The most important member at the center of the E-E-A-T family is Trust.

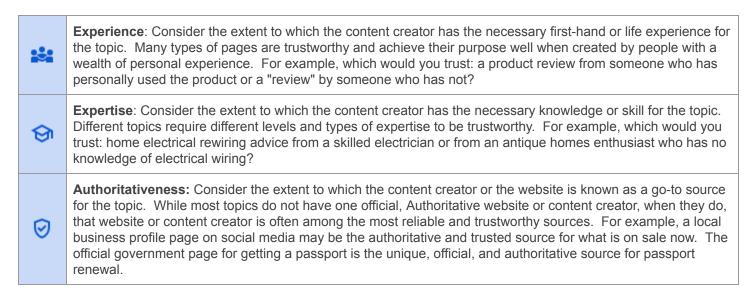


**Trust**: Consider the extent to which the page is accurate, honest, safe, and reliable.

The type and amount of **Trust** needed depends on the page, for example:

- Online stores need secure online payment systems and reliable customer service.
- **Product reviews** should be honest and written to help others make informed purchasing decisions (rather than solely to sell the product).
- Informational pages on clear YMYL topics must be accurate to prevent harm to people and society.
- Social media posts on non-YMYL topics may not need a high level of Trust, such as when the purpose of the post is to entertain its audience and the content of the post does not risk causing harm.

**Experience**, **Expertise** and **Authoritativeness** are important concepts that can support your assessment of Trust:



**Experience**, **Expertise**, and **Authoritativeness** may overlap for some page types and topics (for example, someone may develop Expertise in a topic due to first-hand Experience accumulated over time), and different combinations of E-E-A may be relevant to different topics. You should consider the purpose, type, and topic of the page, then ask yourself what would make the content creator a trustworthy source in that context.

**Trust** is the most important member of the E-E-A-T family because untrustworthy pages have low E-E-A-T no matter how Experienced, Expert, or Authoritative they may seem. For example, a financial scam is untrustworthy, even if the content creator is a highly experienced and expert scammer who is considered the go-to on running scams!

When it comes to Page Quality rating, your assessment of E-E-A-T should be informed by one or more of the following:

- What the website or content creators say about themselves: Look at the "About us" page on the website or profile page of the content creator as a starting point. Is the website or content creator a trustworthy source based on this information?
- What others say about the website or content creators: Look for independent reviews, references, news articles, and other sources of credible information about the website or content creators. Is there independent, reliable evidence that the website or content creator is experienced, has expertise, is authoritative, or is otherwise considered trustworthy? Is there independent, reliable evidence that the website or creator is untrustworthy?
- What is visible on the page, including the Main Content and sections such as reviews and comments: For some types of pages, the level of experience and expertise may be clear from the MC itself. What evidence can you gather from examining the MC or testing the page out? For example, you may be able to tell that someone is an expert in hair styling by watching a video of them in action (styling someone's hair) and reading others' comments (commenters often highlight expertise or lack thereof).

**Important**: The website or content creator may not be a trustworthy source if there is a clear conflict of interest. For example, product reviews by people who own the product and share their experiences can be very valuable and trustworthy. However, "reviews" by the product manufacturer ("Our product is great!") or "reviews" from an influencer who is paid to promote the product are not as trustworthy due to the conflict of interest.

Finally, there are many aspects of Trust, some which are not captured by Experience, Expertise and Authoritativeness. Please consider other aspects in your overall Trust assessment, such as customer service information for online stores or peer-reviewed publications for academic authors. If a page is untrustworthy for any reason, it has low E-E-A-T.

### 3.4.1 YMYL Topics: Experience or Expertise?

Pages on YMYL topics can be created for a wide variety of different purposes. If the purpose of a page on a clear YMYL topic is to give information or offer advice, a high level of expertise may be required for the page to be trustworthy.

However, sometimes pages on YMYL topics are created to share personal experiences, often regarding difficult life challenges. People turn to each other in times of need to share their own experience, seek comfort or inspiration, and learn from others. Factual information from experts and authoritative sources may not satisfy this need.

Pages that share first-hand life experience on clear YMYL topics may be considered to have high E-E-A-T as long as the content is trustworthy, safe, and consistent with well-established expert consensus. In contrast, some types of YMYL information and advice must come from experts.

Here are some examples:

YMYL Topic	Valuable sharing of life <b>Experience</b>	Information or advice best left to Experts
Sleep challenges when pregnant  (YMYL Health or Safety)	Safe and non-medical tips and tricks for sleeping in the last trimester of pregnancy, provided by people who have personally struggled with this challenge, for example: how to use pillows to sleep comfortably in a position that is safe for babies	Sleep medications that are safe during pregnancy
Liver cancer treatment  (YMYL Health or Safety)	A sincere and respectful forum discussion where people are describing how they're coping with liver cancer treatment	Different treatment options for liver cancer and the associated life expectancies under each treatment
Filling out tax forms (YMYL Financial Security)	A humorous video from a non-expert content creator about the frustration of doing taxes	Instructions on how to fill out tax forms
Saving for retirement  (YMYL Financial Security)	Reviews of retirement saving services by people with first-hand experience using these services	Advice on how to invest for retirement: how much to save, what kinds of assets to invest in, how much money you will need to retire by a specific age, etc.
How to vote (YMYL Society)	A social media post by an ordinary citizen describing why they personally believe it's important to vote in local elections	Information about who is eligible to vote or how to register to vote

# 4.0 Lowest Quality Pages

**Lowest** quality pages are untrustworthy, deceptive, harmful to people or society, or have other highly undesirable characteristics. The considerations for **Lowest** quality include quality of the MC, reputation, E-E-A-T, etc., but there are special checks you will need to complete first.

As a reminder, here are the steps for doing PQ rating:

- 1. Assess the true purpose of the page. If the website or page has a harmful purpose or is designed to deceive people about its true purpose, it should be rated **Lowest**.
- 2. Assess the potential of the page to cause harm as described in these guidelines. Websites or pages that are harmful to people or society, untrustworthy, or spammy as specified in these guidelines should receive the **Lowest** rating.
- 3. Otherwise, the PQ rating is based on how well the page achieves its purpose using the criteria outlined in these guidelines.

Steps 1 and 2 are a screening process to quickly detect harmful content before other PQ considerations are applied.

To identify **Lowest** quality pages, start by considering the following:

Initial Consideration	Lowest Quality Pages
The purpose of the page	The Lowest rating is required if the page has a harmful purpose, or if it is designed to deceive people about its true purpose or who is responsible for the content on the page.
The potential for the page to cause harm as described in these guidelines	The Lowest rating is required if the MC is harmful to self or others, harmful to specified groups, or contains harmfully misleading information.
The topic of the page, the type of website, and the extent to which YMYL standards apply	A page on any topic or any type of website may qualify for <b>Lowest</b> .  Give special scrutiny to pages or websites needing a high level of trust, such as online stores, medical websites, or news coverage of major civic issues.

Next, assess the page to determine if any of the criteria for **Lowest** apply:

Lowest Page Quality Assessment	Any one of the following is justification for <b>Lowest</b>	
Quality of the MC	<ul> <li>The page is hacked, defaced, or spammed.</li> <li>The page is gibberish or otherwise makes no sense.</li> <li>The MC is copied, auto-generated, or otherwise created without adequate effort.</li> <li>The MC is created with so little effort, originality, talent, or skill that the page fails to achieve its purpose.</li> </ul>	
The title of the page	The page title is extremely misleading, shocking, or exaggerated.	
The role of Ads and SC on the page	The MC is deliberately obstructed or obscured due to Ads, SC, interstitial pages, download links or other content that is beneficial to the website owner but not necessarily the website visitor.	
Information provided by the website and content creator	A complete lack of information about who is responsible for the website and its content for YMYL pages or other pages requiring trust.	
Reputation of the website and content creator	A very negative reputation, including a reputation for malicious or harmful behavior.	
Trustworthiness of the page: E-E-A-T	<ul> <li>The page or website is highly untrustworthy.</li> <li>The lack of experience, expertise, authoritativeness or trust causes the page to fail to achieve its purpose.</li> </ul>	

# 4.1 Types of Lowest Quality Pages

There are many different shapes and forms that **Lowest** pages can take. To help you keep track, the table below organizes **Lowest** pages into three broad categories: Harmful, Untrustworthy, and Spammy. These categories can overlap (e.g., pages that contain Harmfully Misleading Information are also Untrustworthy).

Type of <b>Lowest</b> Page	Description	Reference Section
Harmful to Self or Other Individuals	Pages that encourage, depict, incite or directly cause physical, mental, emotional or financial harm to self or other individuals.  Examples include:  Detailed instructions on how to commit suicide Detailed, realistic, and serious instructions written with the intent to help someone commit murder	Section 4.2
Harmful to Specified Groups	Pages that promote, condone, or incite violence or hatred against a Specified Group of people (as defined in Section 4.3).  Examples include:  • Content that encourages violence or ill treatment towards a Specified Group  • Content with extremely offensive/dehumanizing stereotypes of a Specified Group	Section 4.3
Harmfully Misleading Information	Pages that misinform people in a way that could cause harm.  Examples include:  Clearly inaccurate harmful information that can easily be refuted by straightforward and widely accepted facts  Harmful unsubstantiated theories/claims not grounded in any reasonable facts or evidence	Section 4.4
Untrustworthy Webpages	Pages or websites that are deceptive or have untrustworthy characteristics.  Examples include:  • Pages or websites with deceptive purpose or design  • Pages or websites designed to manipulate people into actions that benefit the website or other organization while causing harm to self, others or Specified Groups	Section 4.5
Spammy Webpages	Pages with characteristics of webspam as defined in the Google Search Essentials Guidelines and/or Section 4.6 of these guidelines.  Examples include:  Pages deliberately created with no MC or gibberish MC Hacked, defaced, or spammed pages	Section 4.6

**Important**: There is lots of content that many people would find controversial, one-sided, off-putting, or distasteful, yet does not meet the criteria for **Lowest** as described in these guidelines. Use your judgment to follow the standards outlined throughout Section 4.0 rather than relying on personal opinions.

#### 4.2 Harmful to Self or Other Individuals

Use the **Lowest** rating for pages with content that encourages, depicts, incites, or directly causes harm to self or other individuals.

Harm includes physical, mental, emotional, or financial harm to people. Pages should be considered Harmful to Self or Other Individuals if they directly attempt to harm people; encourage behavior that may result in harm; depict extremely violent or gory content without a beneficial/educational purpose; or otherwise are severely traumatic to people who view the page.

Pages do not have to be harmful to *all* people to be considered Harmful to Self or Other Individuals. Different people have different levels of vulnerability to scams, awareness of potential dangers (e.g., dangerous feats depicted in stunt videos), and tolerance for viewing violent/disturbing content. If there is a reasonable possibility that viewing a particular page would cause harm to those who are most vulnerable, it should be considered harmful.

Pages created with a beneficial purpose that report on, discuss, or inform about harmful actions or events (e.g., fictional entertainment, reputable news, education) should typically not be considered Harmful to Self or Other Individuals. For example, advocacy aimed at drawing attention to harmful, real-world actions or events (such as a webpage describing a protest against domestic violence) would not be considered Harmful to Self or Other Individuals.

Here are some examples of content that is vs. is not considered Harmful to Self or Other Individuals:

#### Harmful to Self or Other Individuals **NOT Harmful to Self or Other Individuals** Incitement of violence towards Other Individuals Depictions of violence in an action movie Serious death threats or realistic-sounding threats A news story about violent events Educational content that may depict violence or Exposing personal information belonging to others with malicious intent to target them or promote gross imagery harassment towards them (i.e., "doxxing") An explanation of scams meant to raise How-to information that describes how to commit awareness about them violent acts in an easy-to-replicate way Portravals of dangerous activities in a manner that Advocating for, glorifying, or trivializing violence discourages others from attempting the same feat and atrocities, or to disparage victim(s) of (such as by clearly explaining the risks, describing violence/atrocities the expertise and equipment required, etc.) Depicting or promoting information that facilitates or leads to serious harm to people, or discussions that attempt to justify abuse of people Encouraging unsafe behavior or substantially downplays the risks of dangerous activities (e.g., consuming household cleaning products) Suicide promotion or pro-anorexia content that encourages people to engage in behavior that can result in hospitalization or death Health-related advice that contradicts well-established expert consensus and could result in serious harm or could prevent someone from undertaking a life-saving treatment

### 4.3 Harmful to Specified Groups

Use the **Lowest** rating for pages that promote, condone, or incite hatred against a Specified Group of people.

For the purposes of Search Quality rating, a Specified Group is a group of people that can be defined on the basis of:

- Age (e.g., older adults)
- Caste (e.g., Dalits)
- Disability (e.g., people who are blind)
- Ethnicity (e.g., Roma)
- Gender Identity and Expression (e.g., transgender people)
- Immigration Status (e.g., student visa holders)
- Nationality (e.g., Italians)
- Race (e.g., Asians)
- Religion (e.g., Christians)
- Sex/Gender (e.g., men)
- Sexual Orientation (e.g., lesbians)
- Veteran Status (e.g., Marines)
- Victims of a major violent event and their kin (e.g., victims of the Holocaust)
- Any other characteristic that is associated with systemic discrimination or marginalization (e.g., refugees, people experiencing homelessness)

The tone of the harmful content must be either serious (i.e., not joking or satirical) or mean-spirited (i.e., with an intent to demean or promote intolerance) to be considered Harmful to Specified Groups. Comedy or artistic expression related to a Specified Group should not be considered harmful unless it is clearly mean-spirited or has other clear harmful impact.

Criticism of objects, philosophies, and ideas are generally not considered Harmful to Specified Groups. For example, negative criticism of a religious doctrine should not be considered targeted at the Specified Group that follows that religion. Remember that the content must promote, condone, or incite hatred of *people* to be considered Harmful to Specified Groups.

Educational pages (e.g., definitions, research, academic papers), news stories, or other pages that have a beneficial purpose of informing society should not be considered Harmful to Specified Groups. Similarly, historical documents/videos that aim to capture the beliefs of different eras should not be considered Harmful to Specified Groups.

Here are some examples of content that is vs. is not considered Harmful to Specified Groups:

Harmful to Specified Groups	NOT Harmful to Specified Groups
<ul> <li>Encourages violence or ill treatment towards a Specified Group</li> <li>Promotes intolerance by demonstrating a staunch unwillingness to allow for the views, beliefs, or behavior of a Specified Group</li> <li>Implies that one Specified Group is superior or inferior to another</li> <li>Contains extremely offensive/dehumanizing stereotypes of a Specified Group. Note that stereotypes can be negative or positive.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>A historical documentary of WWII featuring speeches from Nazi leaders</li> <li>A stand-up comedy routine that plays off of stereotypes in a way that is not mean-spirited</li> <li>A newspaper article about a hate organization</li> <li>The dictionary definition of a slur</li> <li>A discussion about a particular religious text and its views on women</li> </ul>

### 4.4 Harmfully Misleading Information

Use the **Lowest** rating for pages that mislead people in ways that can cause harm to people and society.

Misleading pages may have been produced with the intent to misinform people, or the content creator may believe that the inaccurate information they are sharing is true. There is an especially high standard for accuracy on clear YMYL topics or other topics where inaccurate information can cause harm. Be sure to research consequential facts or claims as necessary and to the extent the task time allows.

Pages should be considered to contain Harmfully Misleading Information when they contain at least one of the following:

Type of Harmfully Misleading Information	Description	Examples
Harmful and clearly inaccurate information	Content that can be refuted by straightforward and widely accepted facts	<ul><li>False claims that a world leader died</li><li>False dates for an election</li></ul>
Harmful claims that contradict well-established expert consensus	Content that is inconsistent with positions, facts, or findings that are widely agreed upon by authorities in the relevant field	<ul> <li>Claims that lemons cure cancer</li> <li>Claims that buying lottery tickets is a guaranteed way to save for retirement</li> </ul>
Harmful unsubstantiated theories/claims	Content that is not grounded in any reasonable facts or evidence, especially those that could erode confidence in public institutions. This includes unsubstantiated theories that have been thoroughly debunked or are too outlandish to be given credence.	<ul> <li>Claims that the 9-11 attacks were planned by the U.S. government</li> <li>Claims that world leaders are lizard people</li> </ul>

Harmfully Misleading Information can occur from any websites or content creators - even seemingly "expert", "authoritative" or "official" ones. Any type of page with Harmfully Misleading Information should be rated Lowest, regardless of the source.

However, note that some types of information are subjective, debatable, unverifiable, or inconsequential. For example, pages should not be considered to contain Harmfully Misleading Information if they *exclusively* contain:

- Non-YMYL content created with a clear entertainment purpose, containing no hard claims of factual accuracy and are not harmful to people or society. Examples include many types of fiction, satire or parody, astrology, folklore, myths, and urban legends.
- Reviews expressing personal preferences, opinions, or value-based judgments about a product, restaurant, book/movie/TV show, etc.
- Claims or statements that are reasonably debatable when there is not a single established correct answer or truth (e.g., discussions about the relative effectiveness of different healthcare systems)
- Insignificant errors or inaccurate information about a trivial topic (e.g., inaccuracies in the height of a celebrity)

Pages that aim to persuade others that a certain position or perspective is correct are fairly common on the Internet. Pages with one-sided/opinionated/controversial/polarizing content should not be considered to contain Harmfully Misleading Information unless they could create harm to individuals or Specified Groups (as described above) and contain clearly inaccurate information, contradict well-established expert consensus, or are not grounded by reasonable facts/evidence.

A webpage may be considered to have Harmfully Misleading Information based on the MC or on other characteristics of the page or information about the content creator (e.g., the title of an article is harmfully misleading, even if the article on its own is not; a creator blatantly misrepresenting their medical credentials for a video on medical topics).

Harmfully Misleading Information can be especially hard to identify because it may require research from outside sources. Reputable fact-checking websites can't always keep up with the volume of unsubstantiated theories/claims produced by

the Internet, and some theories may even claim that debunking information is inaccurate. You should attempt to find high-quality, trustworthy sources to check accuracy and seek out the consensus of experts if you are unsure. Please research theories and claims to the extent the task time allows. If a theory/claim seems wildly improbable and can't be verified by independent trustworthy sources, you should consider it unsubstantiated.

# 4.5 Untrustworthy Webpages or Websites

The **Lowest** rating should be used for pages or websites you strongly suspect are engaging in deceptive or malicious practices.

Some untrustworthy pages are created to benefit the website or organization rather than helping people. Some untrustworthy pages may even exist to cause harm to people who engage with the page, such as scams or malicious downloads.

Your assessment of untrustworthiness may be based on the content of the page, information about the website, information about the content creator, and the reputation of the website or content creator.

Your assessment may also be based on a *lack* of critically important information. For example, any website involving financial transactions or sensitive information should have comprehensive information about who is responsible for the site and a way to contact the site if something goes wrong. If some aspect of a page or website makes you suspect deception or maliciousness, please look for information about the site. If you cannot find reputation information to confirm your suspicion, carefully explore the site.

Sometimes a single page on an unknown website in isolation may seem odd but subsequent exploration shows no concern. However, if you see a pattern of what appears to be deception or manipulation or become concerned about your own safety, please use the **Lowest** rating and leave the website immediately.

Pages with the following characteristics should be considered Untrustworthy:

- Inadequate information about the website or content creator for its purpose
- Lowest E-E-A-T or Lowest reputation
- Deceptive purpose, deceptive page design, or deceptive intent
- Deliberately obstructed or obscured MC
- Characteristics of scams, malicious downloads, or other harmful behavior
- Any webpage or website designed to manipulate people into actions that benefit the website or other organization while causing harm to self, others, or Specified Groups

**Important**: Highly untrustworthy pages should be given the **Lowest** rating even if you are unable to "prove" the webpage or site is harmful. Because many people are unwilling to use a highly untrustworthy page, an untrustworthy page or website fails to achieve its purpose.

### 4.5.1 Inadequate Information about the Website or Content Creator for the Purpose of the Page

For pages that require a high level of trust, information about who created the content and who is responsible for the content is critical.

As discussed in <u>Section 2.5.3</u>, we expect most websites to have some information about who (e.g., what individual, company, business, foundation, etc.) is responsible for the website and who created the MC and some contact information, unless there is a good reason for anonymity. As you will see in the examples below, many types of Lowest pages such as malicious downloads and scams typically have no information or fake information about who is responsible to prevent recourse by people who are harmed.

Any site that handles personal, private or sensitive data must provide extensive contact information. This includes sites that ask users to create passwords, share personal information, or conduct financial transactions.

YMYL pages or websites that handle sensitive data with absolutely no information about the website or content creator should be rated **Lowest**.

#### 4.5.2 Lowest E-E-A-T and Lowest Reputation of the Website or Content Creator

If the E-E-A-T of a page is low enough, people cannot or should not use the MC of the page. If a page on YMYL topics is highly inexpert, it should be considered Untrustworthy and rated **Lowest**.

Use the **Lowest** rating if the website and content creator have an extremely negative reputation, to the extent that many people would consider the webpage or website untrustworthy.

Here are some examples originally shown in <u>Section 3.3.3</u>. All pages on these websites should be rated **Lowest** because of the credible extremely negative or malicious reputation of these websites, making them untrustworthy.

**Note**: These website examples may be considered Harmful in some form as well. Sometimes reputation research exposes information that may not meet the criteria for considering a website harmful but does cause it to be untrustworthy.

Website	Description	
Site selling children's jungle gym	<b>Evidence of fraudulent behavior</b> : There are many reviews on websites describing how users sent money and did not receive anything in return. There is also a news article about this business engaging in financial fraud.	
Site selling products related to eyewear	<b>Evidence of criminal behavior</b> : This website engaged in criminal behavior such as physically threatening users.	
Organization serving the hospitalized veteran community	<b>Evidence of fraudulent behavior</b> : There are many detailed negative articles on news sites and charity watchdog sites describing fraud and financial mishandling about this organization.	

### 4.5.3 Deceptive Page Purpose and Deceptive MC Design

Pages or websites are Untrustworthy if they have a deceptive purpose. These pages or websites superficially appear to have one purpose, but in fact exist for a different reason.

All pages with a deceptive purpose and/or deceptive MC should be rated **Lowest** because pages that engage in deception are Untrustworthy.

The following list includes some common types of deceptive purpose pages. However, no list of deceptive page types will be complete—deceptive websites continue to evolve as people and search engines figure out how they are being tricked.

- A webpage or website that impersonates a different site (e.g., copied logo or branding of an unaffiliated site, URL that mimics another site's name, etc.)
- A non-satirical social network profile made by an impersonator
- A webpage or website that looks like a news source or information page, but in fact has articles to
  manipulate users in order to benefit a person, business, government, or other organization politically, monetarily,
  or otherwise
- A webpage claims to offer an independent review or share other information about a product, but is in fact created to make money for the owner of the website without attempting to help users. For example, the MC may contain intentionally misleading or inaccurate information created with the sole purpose of getting users to click on monetized links or buy the product
- A website claims to be the personal website of a celebrity, but the website is actually created to make
  money for the owner of the website without the permission of the celebrity. For example, the page may
  have false testimonials for a product and is created for the sole purpose of getting users to click on monetized
  links or buy the product
- A webpage with a misleading title or a title that has nothing to do with the content on the page. People who come to the page expecting content related to the title will feel tricked or deceived
- A webpage or website with deceptive website information. For example, the website may misrepresent who owns the site, what the website purpose really is, how the content was created, how to contact the site, etc.

Another form of deception is through the design of the page. Some pages are deliberately designed to manipulate users to take an action that will benefit the owner of the website rather than help the user.

Here are some common types of pages with deceptive MC design:

- Pages that disguise Ads as MC. Actual MC may be minimal or created to encourage users to click on the Ads.
   For example, fake search pages (example) that have a list of links that look like a page of search results. If you click on a few of the links, you will see that the page is just a collection of Ads disguised as search engine results.
   A "search box" is present, but submitting a new query just gives you a different page of Ads disguised as search results.
- Pages that disguise Ads as website navigation links. For example, fake directory pages (<u>example</u>) that look like a personally curated set of helpful links, possibly with unique descriptions. In reality, the links are Ads or links to other similar pages on the site. Sometimes the descriptions of the links are unrelated to the page.

Take a good look at the page and use your judgment. If you believe the true purpose of the page is not what it appears to be, the page should be rated **Lowest**. If you believe the page was deliberately created with the primary purpose to manipulate users to click on Ads, monetized links, questionable download links, etc., rather than to help people, the page should be rated **Lowest**. If the page uses deception in any form even if not described here, the page should be rated **Lowest**.

### 4.5.4 Deliberately Obstructed or Obscured MC

Pages are untrustworthy if the MC is deliberately obstructed or obscured due to Ads, SC, interstitial pages, download links or other content that is beneficial to the website owner but not necessarily the website visitor. Attempts to manipulate or coerce users away from the MC is evidence of untrustworthiness.

Here are some examples of pages with deliberately obstructed or obscured MC that should be rated **Lowest**:

- Ads that continue to cover the MC as the website visitor scrolls down the page. The Ads are virtually impossible
  to close without clicking on the Ad
- Pop-ups that obscure the MC and cannot be closed without taking an action that benefits the website
- An interstitial page that attempts to coerce a download or click that does not benefit the website visitor
- Ads that push the MC down so far that many users would not notice the MC
- MC in white-on-white text or MC presented so that it is difficult for a human being to read

Logins or paywalls on otherwise trustworthy sites should not be considered untrustworthy, deceptive, or coercive. Many high quality sites such as newspapers or magazines cannot exist without monetization through subscriptions and paywalls. Some types of MC should be login protected, such as pages with personal information online banking websites or private pages on social network websites.

MC may be inaccessible for non-deliberate or non-coercive reasons, such as content that doesn't load or content that is unavailable in a country or region. These are not reasons for **Lowest**.

Use your judgment to assess whether the page is designed to manipulate or coerce users into taking actions that benefit the website. If you are unsure, look at other pages on the same website, conduct reputation research, etc.

**Important:** Remember that many websites need monetization to share content with users. The presence of Ads alone is not enough for **Lowest**.

#### 4.5.5 Suspected Malicious Behavior

It may be difficult to prove that a page causes harm without experiencing harm yourself. For this reason, you may use the **Lowest** rating if you strongly suspect a page is malicious or harmful even without having proof. Any of the following should be considered untrustworthy:

- Pages or websites that you strongly suspect are scams (see these links for more information about Internet scams: Avoid Scams 1, Avoid Scams 2, Internet Fraud).
- Pages that ask for personal information without a legitimate reason (for example, pages that ask for name, birthdate, address, bank account, government ID number, etc.).
- Pages that appear to "phish" for passwords to Facebook, Gmail, or other popular online services. See <a href="here">here</a> for information about "phishing" fraud.
- Pages with links that you strongly suspect are malware downloads.

**Important**: Do not continue to interact with the page if you observe these characteristics.

If you do click on a link and encounter a malware warning from your browser or antivirus software (<u>example</u>), please do not continue to that page. You can assume that the page is malicious for the purpose of rating and use **Lowest**.

Note that not all warnings your browser may display are related to malware (e.g., other types of browser warnings include certificate acceptance requests, content filtering warnings, etc.). If you are unsure or hesitant to continue to the page for any reason, you can release the task.

## 4.6 Spammy Webpages

Pages and websites should exist for the benefit of people who visit the website. There are many types of webpages that can benefit visitors, such as online shopping or banking services, videos offering entertainment, or personal pages sharing a perspective or experience. Some of these pages depend on advertising and monetization to maintain the website and create high quality content while still benefiting visitors.

However, some pages are created to benefit the website owner or other organizations and with little to no attention paid to the experience of the people who visit. When such pages use deceptive techniques to appear near the top of search results, it may disincentivize the creation of high quality content by crowding out pages created with effort, originality, talent, or skill that is helpful for visitors.

This section describes characteristics of spam or spam-like pages that should be rated **Lowest**. The <u>Google Search</u> <u>Essentials Guideline</u> is a good reference for non-website owners to learn more about different spam techniques. If you recognize any of these spam techniques on a page, please use the **Lowest** rating.

You do not need to develop spam recognition expertise or use special spam identification tools for PQ rating. Please review this section for guidance on what to look for even without having such tools or expertise.

#### 4.6.1 Cannot Determine a Purpose, No MC, Little MC, or Lowest Quality MC

All pages should be created with sufficient MC quality so that the page can achieve its purpose. However, some pages are so lacking in MC that the purpose of the page itself is unclear or you may suspect the page is not actually created for people.

If any of the following are true, the page should be rated **Lowest**:

- Despite your best efforts, the purpose of the page cannot truly be understood because the MC is gibberish or otherwise unusable for people
- The page deliberately has no MC
- The page is deliberately created with so little MC that it fails to achieve any purpose
- The page is deliberately created with such low quality MC that it fails to achieve any purpose

### 4.6.2 Hacked, Defaced, or Spammed Pages

A hacked or <u>defaced website</u> is a site that has been modified without permission from the website owner(s).

Websites can become hacked, defaced, or filled with a large amount of distracting and unhelpful content from bad actors. Bad actors may add unrelated MC or SC or may modify existing MC on webpages to change the purpose of the page. These pages should be rated **Lowest** because they fail to achieve their original purpose. Responsible website owners should regularly check their websites for suspicious behavior and take steps to protect users.

A common problem on forum pages or in the comments sections of pages is "spammed" comments: posts with unrelated comments that are not intended to help other people, but rather to advertise a product or create a link to a website. Frequently these comments are posted by a "bot" rather than a real person. If a specific page on a website has unrelated "spammed" comments, the page should be rated **Lowest**.

### 4.6.3 Auto-generated MC

Creating an abundance of content with little effort or originality with no editing or manual curation is often the defining attribute of spammy websites. One way to do this is to use "auto-generated" content.

It is possible to create many pages or even entire websites by designing a basic template from which hundreds or thousands of pages are created, sometimes using content from freely available sources (such as an RSS feed or API). These pages are created with very little effort and have little to no editing or manual curation. There is little value when pages repackage freely available content with little attention to no attention to the experience of people visiting the page (see here for more information on automatically generated content).

It is often easiest to recognize auto-generated content by clicking on multiple pages on a website and observing "templated" content. It may be difficult to recognize auto-generated content from a single page, so be sure to explore the website if you suspect the content is templated.

Pages and websites made up of auto-generated content with no editing or manual curation, and no original content or value added for users, should be rated **Lowest**.

#### 4.6.4 Copied MC with No Added Value

Another way to create an abundance of content with little effort or originality is to copy content from another source. The word "copied" refers to the practice of "scraping" content, or copying content from other non-affiliated websites without adding any original content or value to users (see here for more information on copied or scraped content).

Any type of content may be copied: text, images, video, etc. Images may be slightly cropped or edited to avoid detection. People may alter videos as well, or even make a video of a screen playing video! Copied content with no value added is **Lowest** quality.

Sometimes content is "embedded" or included on the page from another source. There is nothing wrong with embedding content, but the **Lowest** rating applies if there is no significant original content or value added on the page.

Likewise, social media posts may be reposted by an unrelated account. There is nothing wrong with reposting content, but the **Lowest** rating applies if there is no value added in the form of additional content, context, or discussion.

Pages created solely with copied, embedded, or reposted content with little to no editing or manual curation are lacking in effort and originality. As with auto-generated content, these techniques can be used to create many pages or even a whole website. For this reason, it is often easiest to recognize pages created solely with copied, embedded, or reposted content by exploring many pages on the site.

The **Lowest** rating is appropriate if all or almost all of the MC on the page (including text, images or videos) is copied, embedded, or reposted with little or no effort, originality, talent, skill, manual curation, or added value for users. Such pages should be rated **Lowest**, even if the page assigns credit for the content to another source.

All of the following are considered copied content:

- Content copied, reposted, or embedded exactly from an identifiable source. Sometimes an entire page is copied, and sometimes just parts of the page are copied. Sometimes multiple pages are copied and then pasted together into a single page. Content that has been copied, reposted, or embedded exactly is usually the easiest type of copied content to identify.
- Content that is copied, but changed slightly from the original. This type of copying makes it difficult to find the exact matching original source. Sometimes just a few words are changed, or whole sentences are changed, or a "find and replace" modification is made, where one word is replaced with another throughout the text. Images may be cropped or videos may be segmented into shorter clips. These types of changes are deliberately done to make it difficult to find the original source of the content. We call this kind of content "copied with minimal alteration."
- Content copied from a changing source, such as a search results page or news feed. You often won't be able to find an exact matching original source if it is a copy of "dynamic" content (content that changes frequently). However, we will still consider this to be copied content.

**Important**: Licensed or syndicated content should not be considered as "copied" (see <u>here</u> for more on web syndication). Examples of syndicated content in the U.S. include news articles by AP or Reuters.

#### 4.6.5 How to Determine if Content is Copied

How do you determine whether all or most of the MC is copied? How do you identify the original source of the content? These things can be difficult to determine, but the following steps may help.

- 1. Copy a sentence or phrase in the text. It may be necessary to try a few sentences or phrases from the page just to be sure. When deciding what sentence or phrase to copy, try to find a sentence or series of several words without punctuation, unusual characters, or suspicious words that may have replaced the original text.
- 2. Search on Google by pasting the sentence or phrase (surrounded by quotation marks to search for an exact match) inside the Google search box. You may also try without quotation marks to search for more general matches.



Here are some sentences and phrases from this page about "The Wizard of Oz" film and how to search for them.

Sentence or Phrase From a Sentence	Query to Find the Sentence or Phrase
A sentence on the page:  All are convinced by Dorothy that the Wizard can help them too	Try the query both with and without quotation marks around the sentence: [ "All are convinced by Dorothy that the Wizard can help them too" ] [ All are convinced by Dorothy that the Wizard can help them too ]
A phrase on the page:  Dorothy uses the Golden Cap to summon the Winged Monkeys	Try the query both with and without quotation marks around the sentence: ["Dorothy uses the Golden Cap to summon the Winged Monkeys"] [Dorothy uses the Golden Cap to summon the Winged Monkeys]
A different phrase on the page:  revealing an old man who had journeyed to Oz from Omaha long ago in a hot air balloon	Try the query both with and without quotation marks around the sentence:  [ "revealing an old man who had journeyed to Oz from Omaha long ago in a hot air balloon" ]  [revealing an old man who had journeyed to Oz from Omaha long ago in a hot air balloon ]

3. Compare the pages you find that match the sentence or phrase. Is most of their MC the same? If so, does one clearly come from a highly authoritative source that is known for original content creation (newspaper, magazine, medical foundation, etc.)? Does one source seem to reasonably be the original? Does one source appear to have the earliest publication date, verified by sources like the Wayback Machine?

Use your best judgment. Sometimes it is clear that the content is copied from somewhere, but you cannot tell what the original source is. Other times the content found on the original source has changed enough that searches for sentences or phrases may no longer match the original source. For example, Wikipedia articles can change dramatically over time. Text copied from old copies may not match the current content. If you strongly suspect the page you are evaluating is not the original source, consider it likely to be copied.

Based on this <u>older version of a Wikipedia article</u> about "The Wizard of Oz," which can be found using the <u>Internet Archive Wayback Machine</u>, we can confirm that the text in the table has been copied. Please note that searching for the above sentence and phrases will not lead you to a current Wikipedia article about "The Wizard of Oz," which demonstrates how confirming that the MC of a page contains copied content can sometimes be difficult.

**Important**: The **Lowest** rating is appropriate if all or almost all of the MC on the page is copied with little or no effort, manual curation, or added value for users. Such pages should be rated **Lowest**, even if the page assigns credit for the content to another source.

# 4.7 Examples of Lowest Quality Pages

Webpage/Content	Lowest Quality Justification	PQ Rating and Explanation
Lowest: Superiority of Specified Group 1  This is the homepage of Stormfront, a white supremacist website. The site is known for propagating white nationalism, antisemitism, Holocaust denial, white supremacy, and Islamophobia.	Harmful to Specified Groups     Promotes, condones, or incites hatred against a Specified Group of people     Lowest website reputation	Inciting hatred towards Specified Groups significantly harms members of those groups and society as whole. This page is on a YMYL topic.  This website has an extremely negative reputation for promoting white supremacy, antisemitism, Holocaust denial, etc.
Lowest: Superiority of Specified Group 2  This page describes a non-scientifically backed theory of superiority of a Specified Group.	Harmful to Specified Groups, Harmfully Misleading Information  • Promotes, condones, or incites hatred against a Specified Group of people • Contains unsubstantiated theories/claims not grounded in any reasonable facts or evidence	Unsubstantiated claims about a Specified Group significantly harms members of that group and society as a whole. This page is on a YMYL topic.  The purpose of the page is to promote the view of superiority of a group of people.  This page makes unsubstantiated claims about the role of melanin in the human body.
Lowest: Non-medical drug use advice  This post encourages mixing an anti-anxiety drug with a recreational drug.	Harmful to Self or Other Individuals     Encourages, depicts, incites, or directly causes physical, mental, emotional, or financial harm to self or others	Potentially harmful use of drugs could significantly impact a person's health. This is a YMYL topic.  This post and other content on the page encourages dangerous behavior that could cause harm.
Lowest: Eating disorder encouragement  This page has posts that encourage people to lose weight in unhealthy ways.	Harmful to Self or Other Individuals, Harmfully Misleading Information  • Encourages, depicts, incites, or directly causes physical, mental, emotional, or financial harm to self or others  • Contains information that contradicts well-established expert consensus	Eating disorders and decisions to seek medical treatment significantly impact a person's health. This is a YMYL topic.  This post encourages harmful behavior.  "Proana" or pro-anorexia is a movement to view anorexia as a lifestyle choice, not a disease. Proana and similar "thinspiration" pages contradict well-established expert consensus that anorexia is a life-threatening eating disorder.

Webpage/Content	Lowest Quality Justification	PQ Rating and Explanation
Lowest: Personal information collection scam  Superficially, this looks like a payment page on a merchant site.  However, the form asks for highly sensitive personal information such as social security number, drivers license number, bank account numbers, and ATM PIN.	Harmful to Self or Other Individuals, Untrustworthy  • Encourages, depicts, incites, or directly causes physical, mental, emotional, or financial harm to self or others • Characteristics of scams, malicious downloads, or other harmful behavior	Sharing highly sensitive personal information could significantly impact a person's financial security. This page is on a YMYL topic.  While this looks like a merchant site, the true purpose of this page is to collect information that could be used to commit identity theft or remove money from someone's bank account.
Lowest: Poor financial advice and possible scam  This is an article suggesting clicking on a link to avoid paying debt.	Untrustworthy  Inadequate information about the website or content creator for the purpose of the page Lowest E-E-A-T Deceptive page design Characteristics of scams, malicious downloads, or other harmful behavior	Debt management significantly impacts a person's financial security. This is a YMYL topic.  This page has multiple <b>Lowest</b> quality characteristics. From the MC, it is evident that the content creator lacks financial expertise (inconsistent with well-established expert consensus on what to do for debt relief).  Furthermore, the page appears to be designed to manipulate people into clicking one of several prominent links rather than helping people by providing sound financial advice. The promise of debt relief is a common form of manipulation and scam technique.
Lowest: Miley Cyrus is dead "news article" on a deceptive website  This is a factually inaccurate article on a website called "Now 8 News". It falsely claims Miley Cyrus is dead.	Harmfully Misleading Information,     Untrustworthy     Contains clearly inaccurate information that can be refuted by straightforward and widely accepted facts     Deceptive page design	This website is designed to look like a news site and yet has deliberate factually inaccurate information. There is no information on who is responsible for this content. There is no date for the news article or date of death, which would be a key part of any standard reporting. This page was designed to misinform or deceive.
Lowest: Crystals heal cancer potential scam  This article explains how crystals can be used to help cure cancers. It has a prominent "Shop Crystals" link at the top.	Harmfully Misleading Information, Untrustworthy  Contains unsubstantiated theories/claims not grounded in any reasonable facts or evidence Contains information that contradicts well-established expert consensus Characteristics of scams, malicious downloads, or other harmful behavior	Claims about cancer cures could significantly impact people's decisions to seek medical treatment. This page is on a YMYL topic.  The claims made about the healing power of crystals contradict well-established expert scientific and medical consensus.  Selling "cures" for diseases such as cancer is a commonly used scam technique.

Webpage/Content	Lowest Quality Justification	PQ Rating and Explanation
Lowest: Flat earth  This is a homepage of The Flat Earth Society, a group of people dedicated to spreading the belief that the earth is flat.	Harmfully Misleading Information     Contains unsubstantiated theories/claims not grounded in any reasonable facts or evidence     Contains clearly inaccurate information that can be refuted by straightforward and widely accepted facts     Contains information that contradicts well-established expert consensus	Claims contradicting well-established scientific consensus about the shape of the earth undermine trust in scientific institutions such as NOAA, the agency responsible for issuing alerts during dangerous weather events. This is a YMYL topic.  The purpose of this website is promoting misleading information. It is harmful to people and society as it undermines trust in public institutions.
Lowest: Dry socket medical info  This YMYL medical site has literally no information about who is responsible for the content or the website.	<ul> <li>Untrustworthy</li> <li>Inadequate information about the website or content creator for the purpose of the page</li> </ul>	Medical information about this dental condition could significantly impact how people seek dental treatment. This page is on a YMYL topic.  There is no information about who created this website, no contact information, and no information about the author.  Medical pages require a high level of user trust. Because there is no information about who owns this website and who created this content, this is considered an untrustworthy website.
Lowest: Merchant with little contact info, untrustworthy characteristics  This looks like a product listing page on a merchant website.	Inadequate information about the website or content creator for the purpose of the page     Characteristics of scams, malicious downloads, or other harmful behavior	Inaccurate information about shipping and returns, deceptive use of logos and no information about who is responsible make this shopping site appear potentially fraudulent and untrustworthy.  This page is selling Nike Air Jordan shoes. However, there is inadequate contact information on the contact us page for a merchant site.  In addition, the Shipping and Returns page has the name of another company that seems to be unrelated. There are also official looking logos at the bottom of the homepage, including the Better Business Bureau logo and Google Checkout logo, that don't appear to be affiliated with the website.

Webpage/Content	Lowest Quality Justification	PQ Rating and Explanation
Lowest: Stomach flu lowest EAT article  This poorly written article describes how to cure the stomach flu.	Harmfully Misleading Information, Untrustworthy  Contains information that contradicts well-established expert consensus Inadequate information about the website or content creator for the purpose of the page Lowest E-E-A-T	Many patient hospitalizations and deaths occur due to the flu each year. This topic could significantly impact a person's health. This is a YMYL topic.  The writing is poor and the information is not consistent with standard medical guidance. It is clear from the content the author does not have medical expertise.  This page should not be trusted as a medical resource.
Lowest: Pimple popping lowest EAT article  This very poorly written article describes popping pimples.	<ul> <li>Untrustworthy</li> <li>Inadequate information about the website or content creator for the purpose of the page</li> <li>Lowest E-E-A-T</li> </ul>	The writing is extremely poor and there is virtually no information in this article.  For example, the opening sentence is "Popping pimples could be or could be not the new trend of getting rid of them."  It is clear from the content that the author does not have skin care expertise.
Lowest: Malicious merchant site  This website appears to be an eyeglasses merchant site.	Harmful to Self or Other Individuals,     Untrustworthy	This website swindled people and physically threatened people who complained. These articles on Wikipedia and the New York Times describe the deceptive techniques used by this website and provide other negative information about the website and its owner.  The reputation of this website is lowest based on reports of malicious behavior.
Lowest: Chicken recipes no MC  This looks like a list of chicken recipes, but is actually a list of links that are ads.	<ul> <li>Untrustworthy, Spammy</li> <li>No MC</li> <li>Deceptive page design</li> <li>Content created with little to no effort, talent, skill, originality, manual curation, or added value for users</li> </ul>	MC should be created to benefit people who come to the website. Pages without MC should be considered spammy as they crowd out and disincentivize the creation of pages with high quality MC.  Pages with Ads that are designed to look like MC should be considered untrustworthy.

Webpage/Content	Lowest Quality Justification	PQ Rating and Explanation
Lowest: Mesothelioma deceptive directory  This page looks like a listing of resources about Mesothelioma, a form of lung cancer.	<ul> <li>Untrustworthy, Spammy</li> <li>No MC</li> <li>Deceptive page design</li> <li>Content created with little to no effort, talent, skill, originality, manual curation, or added value for users</li> </ul>	Information about cancer could significantly impact how people make decisions related to medical treatment. This page is on a YMYL topic.  This page is designed to look like a directory page or a list of helpful resources, but every link is an Ad. There is no MC on this page.  Pages without MC should be considered spammy as they crowd out and disincentivize the creation of pages with high quality MC.  Pages that disguise Ads as directory listings or other MC should be considered untrustworthy.
Lowest: Ads deliberately obscure MC  When you first visit the page, it appears that there is no MC, only Ads. If you scroll down, you will eventually find the MC at the bottom.	<ul> <li>Untrustworthy</li> <li>Deliberately obstructed or obscured MC</li> </ul>	This page requires scrolling past so many Ads to get to the MC that many people may stop scrolling and leave the page before reaching the MC.  Deliberately obscured MC to benefit the website with no help for people visiting the page should be considered untrustworthy.
Lowest: Deceptive and untrustworthy fake survey page  This page appears to be a survey with the opportunity to win an Apple MacBook Air, an iPhone 5c, or a Galaxy S4.	<ul> <li>Untrustworthy, Spammy</li> <li>Inadequate information about the website or content creator for the purpose of the page</li> <li>Deceptive page design</li> <li>Characteristics of scams, malicious downloads, or other harmful behavior</li> <li>Content created with little to no effort, talent, skill, originality, manual curation, or added value for users</li> </ul>	This page contains a fake survey, which appears to promise users the opportunity to win an Apple MacBook Air, an iPhone 5c, or a Galaxy S4.  However, there is no information about who is responsible for the survey, even though upon clicking, the survey asks for highly personal information such as bank account numbers. The message at the top of the page, "Thank You from Goggle.com" and survey content could mislead users to think that the survey is affiliated with Google.  This page is deceptive and should be considered untrustworthy.

Webpage/Content	Lowest Quality Justification	PQ Rating and Explanation
Lowest: Lowest MC free credit report  The title of the page suggests that it may provide a credit report from the government "freecreditreport gov".  However, the page has gibberish MC and spammy looking features, such as ads or links surrounding the meaningless text.	Untrustworthy, Spammy  Extremely misleading title Inadequate information about the website or content creator for the purpose of the page Deceptive page design Characteristics of scams, malicious downloads, or other harmful behavior Cannot determine any purpose, e.g., gibberish MC Content created with little to no effort, talent, skill, originality, manual curation, or added value for users	Credit reports could significantly impact one's financial security. This is a YMYL topic.  The MC is gibberish. There is no beneficial purpose of gibberish MC. The title of the page is misleading, given the MC.  This page also has deceptive features in the supplementary content, such as a friend request, a prize alert, and a download button. It is highly likely that these are ads or malicious download links.
Lowest: Buy Xanax  This is a page on the website for the U.S. Green Building Council. However, this page has the words "Buy Xanax" over and over again, along with related words about buying Xanax and a URL link.	Untrustworthy, Spammy  Characteristics of scams, malicious downloads, or other harmful behavior Content created with little to no effort, talent, skill, originality, manual curation, or added value for users	Prescription drugs could significantly impact a person's health. This is a YMYL topic.  This specific page has been created or modified on this organization's website in hopes that people will click on the link to buy the prescription drug Xanax.  This is a spam technique. Spammers hope that the page will rank well in search results because the website is otherwise high quality. The words "buy xanax" are used repeatedly in hopes that the page will show up for the search "buy xanax".  Attempting to spam search engines and trick people into clicking on links is highly untrustworthy behavior.

Webpage/Content	Lowest Quality Justification	PQ Rating and Explanation
Lowest: Auto-generated car engine code  This page is full of supplementary content, links, and large ads.  The MC at the top gives information about a specific error code P2570 and a second block of main content in the middle shows more information about P2570.  The MC is broken up by large ads and it is difficult to understand due to the poor content quality.	<ul> <li>Untrustworthy, Spammy</li> <li>Inadequate information about the website or content creator for the purpose of the page</li> <li>Content created with little to no effort, talent, skill, originality, manual curation, or added value for users</li> </ul>	This page has low quality MC and spammy attributes.  The page repeats the error code "P2570" beyond what is helpful for users- a technique known as irrelevant keywords.  The small amount of MC is not original to the website. Lists of error codes are available either by purchase or by scraping.  An important fact is missing at the top "When you check engine light came on code P2570 the reason should be ." The reason is left out this should be the most important content on the page!  Looking at other pages on the website, it is clear that each page is created automatically by filling in a template from a list of error code information. There appears to be little to no manual editing or checking to make sure the error code content is correctly pulled in, as evident by the missing reason on this page.  As with many spammy websites, there is no information about who is responsible for this website and no way to report problems with the page.

Webpage/Content	Lowest Quality Justification	PQ Rating and Explanation
Lowest: Auto-generated bulldog wrinkle wipes  This page claims to list the best bulldog wrinkle wipes and uses affiliate links.	<ul> <li>Untrustworthy, Spammy</li> <li>Inadequate information about the website or content creator for the purpose of the page</li> <li>Deceptive page design</li> <li>Content created with little to no effort, talent, skill, originality, manual curation, or added value for users</li> </ul>	The MC on this page is copied with little or no time, effort, expertise, manual curation, or added value for users.  Looking at the content at the bottom of the page and exploring other pages on the website, it is clear that each page is created automatically using content from Amazon and substituting different product names into a generic template. There appears to be little to no manual editing or curation on this page.  The true purpose of this page is to bring users seeking information about products to this website in hopes that they will click and order products by clicking on Amazon affiliate links. This website does not have a beneficial purpose for users but rather was created to benefit the creator of the website. Though the website discloses that they use affiliate links, the site offers no added value for users.  As with many deceptive websites, there is no information about who is responsible for this website.
Lowest: Viagra copied content This looks like an information website for the drug Viagra.	<ul> <li>Untrustworthy, Spammy</li> <li>Inadequate information about the website or content creator for the purpose of the page</li> <li>Deceptive page design</li> <li>Content created with little to no effort, talent, skill, originality, manual curation, or added value for users</li> </ul>	Information about prescription drugs could significantly impact a person's health. This page is on a YMYL topic.  All MC on this page is copied with little or no time, effort, expertise, manual curation, or added value for users. Here is the original source.  Exploration of the pages on this website are similarly created with little expertise or value added for users.  The true purpose of this page is to bring users seeking information about Viagra to this website in hopes that they will click on the "order now" link. The "order now" link goes to another website and is likely monetized. Therefore, this website does not have a beneficial purpose for users but rather was created to benefit another websites, there is no information about who is responsible for this website.

# 5.0 Low Quality Pages

**Low** quality pages do not achieve their purpose well because they are lacking in an important dimension or have a problematic aspect. **Low** quality pages do not meet the standards for **Lowest** but may have similar though milder undesirable characteristics.

To identify **Low** quality pages, start by considering the following:

Initial Consideration	Low Quality Pages
The purpose of the page	Low quality pages have a beneficial or non-harmful purpose.
The potential for the page to cause harm as described in these guidelines	<b>Low</b> quality pages have either no potential to cause harm, or have some mild potential for harm but do not meet the standards for <b>Lowest</b> as described in <u>Section 4.0</u> .
The topic of the page, the type of website, and the extent to which YMYL standards apply	A page on any topic or any type of website may qualify for <b>Low</b> .  Give special scrutiny to pages or websites needing a high level of trust, such as online stores, medical websites, or news coverage of major civic issues.

Next, assess the page to determine if any of the criteria for **Low** apply:

Low Page Quality Assessment	Any one of the following is justification for <b>Low</b>
Quality of the MC	MC is created without adequate effort, originality, talent, or skill necessary to achieve the purpose of the page in a satisfying way.
The title of the page	The page title is slightly misleading, shocking, or exaggerated.
The role of Ads and SC on the page	The Ads or SC significantly distract from or interrupt the use of the MC as described in <u>Section 5.3</u> .
Information provided by the website and content creator	Unsatisfying amount of website information or information about the content creator for the purpose of the page.
	Important: For personal content shared on social media platforms or forums, an alias or username is adequate.
Reputation of the website and content creator	A mildly negative reputation of the website or content creator.
Trustworthiness of the page: E-E-A-T	Inadequate level of E-E-A-T for the purpose of the page.

**Important**: Low quality pages can occur on any type of website, including academic websites, nonprofit websites, government websites, or any other generally helpful type of website. Low quality pages may be about any topic. Pages on YMYL topics need more scrutiny for signs of Low quality related to the MC and website/content creator because the page could impact a person's health, financial stability, or safety, or the welfare or well-being of society. However, for any type of page, a single Low quality attribute is enough to use the **Low** quality rating.

### 5.1 Lacking E-E-A-T

**Low** quality pages often lack an appropriate level of E-E-A-T for the topic or purpose of the page. Here are some examples:

- The content creator lacks adequate experience, e.g. a restaurant review written by someone who has never eaten at the restaurant
- The content creator lacks adequate expertise, e.g. an article about how to skydive written by someone with no expertise in the subject
- The website or content creator is not an authoritative or trustworthy source for the topic of the page, e.g. tax form downloads provided on a cooking website.
- The page or website is not trustworthy for its purpose, e.g. a shopping page with minimal customer service information

**Important:** The **Low** rating should be used if the page lacks appropriate E-E-A-T for its purpose. No other considerations such as positive reputation or the type of website can overcome a lack of E-E-A-T for the topic or purpose of the page.

# 5.2 Low Quality Main Content

MC is **Low** quality if it is created without adequate effort, originality, talent, or skill necessary to achieve the purpose of the page in a satisfying way. Mild inaccuracies on informational pages are evidence of **Low** quality. However, if the page has harmful inaccuracies or so many inaccuracies that it feels untrustworthy, the **Lowest** rating is justified.

There are many possible ways for MC to be **Low** quality, and **Low effort** is important to recognize in all forms.

While you may not have experience creating MC on webpages, think about your experience with something similar: writing reports for school. Here are some common shortcuts that students often take to save effort when writing a report:

- Producing content quickly with little attention to important aspects such as clarity or organization.
- Saving time by summarizing or paraphrasing from other readily available sources.
- Filling a report with large pictures or other distracting content rather than clear, helpful information on the topic.
- Using images from other sources (magazines, stock image websites, etc.) to avoid having to create pictures or diagrams to support the material in the report.
- Using commonly known facts that require little research, for example: "Argentina is a country. People live in Argentina. Argentina has borders."
- Using "filler" content, for example: "Pandas eat bamboo. Pandas eat a lot of bamboo. Bamboo is the best food for a Panda bear."

Of course, webpages are more diverse than school reports, but you will recognize some of these same techniques on pages you encounter. Some **Low** quality content is created with little effort in order to have content to support monetization rather than creating original or effortful content to help users. "Filler" content may also be added, especially at the top of the page, forcing users to scroll down to reach the MC.

Here are some examples of pages with Low quality MC:

Low Quality MC Examples	Why the MC is considered Low quality
A crafting tutorial page with instructions on how to make a basic craft and lots of unhelpful "filler" at the top, such as commonly known facts about the supplies needed or other non-crafting information.	Lacks adequate effort to clearly present the instructions to people hoping to make the craft.
A list of the best vacuum cleaners with product images and reviews that are paraphrased or summarized from other sources, with minimal signs of effort or original content added by the content creator.	Lacks adequate effort and first-hand experience from the content creator.
A slide show of the top 10 world destinations using other people's pictures and existing top 10 lists.	Lacks effort and originality.
A page titled "How many centimeters are in a meter?" with a large amount of off-topic and unhelpful content such that the very small amount of helpful information is hard to find.	Lacks effort, has excessive filler, lacks depth, and has only commonly known facts.
A list of the tallest mountains in the world that is missing Mount Everest.	Lacks accuracy and effort.

The title of the page is also considered part of the MC. Titles are important because they represent the page in search results and help users decide what to click on. A misleading title can lead to a poor search experience. Exaggerated or shocking titles are evidence of **Low** quality because of the poor user experience that results when users see the actual MC after reaching the page.

Here are some examples of pages with **Low** quality titles:

Low Quality Title Examples	Why the Title is considered Low quality
A page titled "Pink Elephant: Part 2 coming soon!", but includes only speculation and rumor about a potential movie sequel that may or may not be produced.	Slightly misleading title would give people the impression that the movie sequel has a confirmed release date, and that the page would provide accurate information about it.
A page titled "Is the World about to End? Mysterious Sightings of Sea Serpents Prompt Panic!", for an article about the remains of a dead fish on a beach.	Exaggerated and shocking title is a mismatch with the content of the article.
A page titled "Eat the Healthiest Foods in the WORLD to extend your life!!!!" for a list of tips on how to add more fruits and vegetables to meals.	Overly exaggerated title suggests that the page would offer something more than the basic nutrition advice it provides.

The level of talent or skill required for artistic expression by ordinary people on social media or other websites that allow content sharing should be viewed leniently. In many cases, people post activities to share with friends, such as a video documenting a first attempt at a new hobby. These types of pages should not be considered **Low** on the basis of talent or skill because the primary purpose is sharing content. Use the **Low** rating only if the lack of talent or skill prevents the page from achieving its purpose well.

**Important**: **Low** quality MC does not meet the standard for **Lowest** and is not harmful, but it is unsatisfying for the purpose of the page or causes the page to fail to achieve its purpose well.

### 5.3 Distracting Ads/SC

We expect Ads and SC to be visible. However, some Ads, SC, or <u>interstitial pages</u> (i.e., pages displayed before or after the content you are expecting) make it difficult to use the MC. Pages with Ads, SC, or other features that significantly distract from or interrupt the use of the MC should be given a **Low** rating.

A single pop-over Ad or interstitial page with a clear and easy-to-use close button is not terribly distracting, even though it may annoy some people. However, difficult-to-close Ads that follow page scrolls, or interstitial pages that require an app download, can be truly distracting and make the MC difficult to use. You can see examples of interstitial pages <a href="here">here</a>.

The content of the Ads, SC, or other features may be distracting as well: sexually suggestive images such as <a href="here">here</a>, and sexually suggestive Ads on otherwise non-sexual pages are very distracting.

Finally, Ads and SC can be distracting if the titles or images of the Ads or SC are shocking or disturbing. <u>Here</u> is an example of a page with shocking and exaggerated titles, images, and text in the Ads and SC.

**Important**: The **Low** rating should be used if the page has Ads, SC, or other features that significantly distract from or interrupt the use of the MC.

### 5.4 Mildly Negative Reputation of the Website or Content Creator

The **Low** rating should be used if the website or the content creator has a mildly negative reputation.

If the MC was created by a content creator who is using the website to host it, research the reputation of the content creator. Expect to find reputation information on well-known journalists, authors, social media influencers, bloggers and vloggers, professionals such as lawyers and doctors, etc. Pay attention when there is evidence of mildly negative—though not malicious or financially fraudulent—reputation. However, a lack of reputation information for ordinary people and lesser-known content creators is expected and is not a sign of **Low** quality.

Exercise care when researching the reputation of businesses. Try to find enough reviews to understand a range of customer opinions and experiences, and read the details of negative reviews and low ratings before inferring that the business overall has a negative reputation. A few negative customer service reviews are typical for businesses such as stores or restaurants.

### 5.5 Unsatisfying Amount of Information about the Website or Content Creator

Expect to find some form of website information for many or most websites. We expect clear information about who (e.g., what individual, company, business, foundation, etc.) created the MC, unless there is good reason for anonymity. A long-standing Internet alias or username can identify the content creator. For personal websites or forum discussions on non-YMYL topics, an email address or social media link alone may be sufficient. Many people are reasonably hesitant to share personally identifiable information online!

Stores and websites that process financial transactions require a high level of user trust. If a store or financial transaction website has just an email address and physical address, it may be difficult to get help if there are issues with the transaction. Likewise, many other types of websites on clear YMYL topics also require a high level of user trust.

**Important**: Pages that offer payment functionality or process other types of financial transactions should receive a **Low** rating if there is an unsatisfying amount of customer service information or contact information. Pages on YMYL topics and other pages that require a high level of user trust should receive a **Low** rating if there is an unsatisfying amount of information about who is responsible for the website or who created the content. For forums, social media pages, and other websites where people commonly exchange opinions, a username is an acceptable identifier.

# 5.6 Examples of Low Quality Pages

Type of Webpage/Content	Low Quality Justification	PQ Rating and Explanation
Low: News 1 Article about nuclear power	<ul> <li>Unsatisfying MC for the purpose of the page: does not achieve the purpose well</li> <li>MC lacks accuracy or does not align with well-established expert consensus</li> <li>Low E-E-A-T for the purpose of the page</li> </ul>	Information about energy sources and nuclear power could significantly impact global industries and society. This is a YMYL topic.  The writing of this article is unprofessional, including many grammar and punctuation errors. The MC also appears to have been paraphrased from a science article found on a different source, but with factual inaccuracies introduced throughout. The combination of low quality MC and lack of E-A-T justify the Lowest+ to Low rating.
Low: News 2  Article titled "Getting Rid Of Toxins After The Holiday Season"	<ul> <li>Unsatisfying MC for the purpose of the page: does not achieve the purpose well</li> <li>MC lacks accuracy or does not align with well-established expert consensus</li> <li>Slightly misleading, shocking, or exaggerated title</li> <li>Low E-E-A-T for the purpose of the page</li> </ul>	The title of the article is misleading and does not reflect the actual content of the page. The MC does not explain how to get rid of toxins or what the word "toxins" in the headline refers to.  The content also has many problems: the writing quality is poor, and the article includes meaningless statements such as "water therapy is one of the easiest ways of beauty regimen since it will give enough moisture on the skin". The article fails to cite sources, and there is no evidence of E-A-T.
Low: Informational  40th birthday party food ideas	<ul> <li>Unsatisfying MC for the purpose of the page: does not achieve the purpose well</li> <li>Ads or SC significantly distract from or interrupt the use of MC</li> <li>Low E-E-A-T for the purpose of the page</li> </ul>	This page and website have many characteristics of <b>Low</b> quality pages. Close observation shows MC that contains mostly commonly known information and poor quality writing, demonstrating a lack of effort. The MC is broken up by large Ads that significantly disrupt the user experience.
Low: Article 1  Article with tips for dressing for the office	<ul> <li>Unsatisfying MC for the purpose of the page: does not achieve the purpose well</li> <li>Low E-E-A-T for the purpose of the page</li> </ul>	This informational article has multiple Low quality characteristics leading to a Low or Lowest+ rating. There is a large amount of "filler" or meaningless content and a complete lack of effort in editing. In addition, the MC contains only commonly known information with no expertise or first-hand experience shared by the content creator.

Type of Webpage/Content	Low Quality Justification	PQ Rating and Explanation
Low: Article 2 Using ginger for your health	<ul> <li>Unsatisfying MC for the purpose of the page: does not achieve the purpose well</li> <li>MC lacks accuracy or does not align with well-established expert consensus</li> <li>Low E-E-A-T for the purpose of the page</li> </ul>	This informational article has multiple Low quality characteristics leading to a Low or Lowest+ rating. There is garbled or meaningless content, a complete lack of effort in editing, and unrelated links in the middle of the page. Additionally, the article is on a health topic, and there are no signs that the content creator has relevant expertise or links to support the medical claims made in the article.
Low: Article 3  How to adopt children from Iraq	<ul> <li>Unsatisfying MC for the purpose of the page: does not achieve the purpose well</li> <li>Low E-E-A-T for the purpose of the page</li> </ul>	Adopting a child significantly impacts the health and well-being of families. This is a YMYL topic.  However, the steps listed here are merely commonly-known information that would be of little benefit to someone interested in adopting a child from Iraq. For example, step 1 says "Choose an adoption agency" and suggests looking in a phone book. This demonstrates a lack of effort in the creation of MC.  There is almost no information specific to Iraq. There is no evidence of expertise on adoption from the description about the author.  Note that some Ads have the same format as links to other articles on this website, potentially making it a bit harder for users to visually distinguish these Ads from the MC and SC.
Low: Financial  Page with advice on picking a quality stock for investment	Low E-E-A-T for the purpose of the page	Advice on stock investment could significantly impact a person's financial decisions and security. This is a YMYL topic.  The MC is superficial and includes mostly commonly known information for this topic, e.g. "look at key statistics" or "find companies with rising revenue". There is no evidence that the author has financial expertise. Because this article gives advice on a YMYL financial topic, lacking expertise is a reason for a Low rating.

Type of Webpage/Content	Low Quality Justification	PQ Rating and Explanation
Low: Medical  Page with information about how long the flu lasts	Low E-E-A-T for the purpose of the page	Many patient hospitalizations and deaths occur due to the flu each year. This topic could significantly impact a person's health. This is a YMYL topic.  There is no evidence that the author has medical expertise. Because this article gives advice on a YMYL medical topic, lacking expertise is a reason for a Low rating.
Low: Recipe 1 Apple pie recipe	Unsatisfying MC for the purpose of the page: does not achieve the purpose well	This page and website have many characteristics of Low quality pages. The MC is low quality and lacks important information. For example, it gives no indication of how to make a crust and doesn't list premade crust as an ingredient. It would be very difficult to actually make an apple pie using this recipe.  This page is lacking the kind of helpful content we expect in recipe pages, such as user reviews or comments. Without such information, it's hard to tell if the recipe is any good. The small pink text at the top is not helpful for users.
Low: Recipe 2 Gluten-free New York cheesecake recipe	Ads or SC significantly distract from or interrupt the use of MC	Lowest Medium Highest  This is an example of distracting and disruptive Ads/SC: there are large Ads in the main column pushing down the MC as well as highly distracting content on the right that are labeled "Top Posts & Pages." It is unclear whether these are SC or Ads. Additionally, the images in the Ads/SC are shocking, racy, and completely unrelated to the MC, which creates a poor user experience.

# 6.0 Medium Quality Pages

**Medium** pages have a beneficial purpose and achieve their purpose. There is nothing wrong with **Medium** quality pages. Expect to encounter many **Medium** quality pages in PQ rating tasks.

To identify **Medium** quality pages, start by considering the following:

Initial Consideration	Medium Quality Pages
The purpose of the page	Medium quality pages have a beneficial or non-harmful purpose.
The potential for the page to cause harm as described in these guidelines	Medium quality pages are not expected to cause harm.
The topic of the page, the type of website, and the extent to which YMYL standards apply	A page on any topic or any type of website may qualify for <b>Medium</b> .  Give special scrutiny to pages on YMYL topics or websites needing a high level of trust, such as online stores.
The title of the page	Medium quality pages have titles that summarize the page.
The role of Ads and SC on the page	The Ads and SC do not block or significantly interfere with the MC on <b>Medium</b> quality pages.
	<b>Remember</b> : Many websites need monetization to share content with users. The presence or absence of Ads alone is not a consideration for PQ rating.
Information provided by the website and content creator	<b>Medium</b> quality pages have adequate information about the website and content creator for the purpose of the page. For stores or websites that process financial transactions, examine the customer service information.
	<b>Important:</b> For personal content shared on social media platforms or forums, an alias or username is adequate.

Next, assess the page to determine if the criteria for **Medium** apply:

Medium Page Quality Assessment	Medium Quality Criteria
Quality of the MC	MC created with adequate effort, originality, talent, or skill such that the page achieves its purpose.
Reputation of the website and content creator	Not especially positive nor especially negative: Reputation information found about the website or content creator is not concerning, but not positive enough to justify a higher rating.
Trustworthiness of the page: E-E-A-T	Adequate level of E-E-A-T for the purpose of the page.

# 6.1 Types of Medium Quality Pages

There are two types of **Medium** quality pages:

Type of <b>Medium</b> Page	Description
Nothing wrong, but nothing special	All of the <b>Medium</b> Page Quality considerations and criteria apply.
Mixed, but with some redeeming qualities	The page or website has some signs of <b>High</b> quality (E-E-A-T, quality of the MC, positive reputation), but also has one sign or mild signs of <b>Low</b> quality.

**Important:** For a page to receive a rating **higher than Medium**, it must meet the criteria described in the next sections on **High** and **Highest** page quality. For a page to receive a rating **lower than Medium**, it must meet the criteria for **Low** or **Lowest** page quality. **Medium** is a rating that applies to many pages you will encounter in PQ rating tasks: many pages have nothing wrong, yet do not represent the high or highest quality content that's available online.

# **Examples of Medium Quality Pages**

Webpage/Type of Content	Medium Quality Justification	PQ Rating and Explanation
Medium: Encyclopedia  Wikipedia article about baroque pearls	Nothing wrong, but nothing special  • Adequate MC: achieves the purpose of the page	This is a short Wikipedia article about baroque pearls, a fairly narrow topic. This page achieves its purpose but doesn't display characteristics associated with a High rating, such as effort in the form of interesting and meaningful content.
Medium: Humor  Page from a humorous site	Nothing wrong, but nothing special  • Adequate MC: achieves the purpose of the page	This page is from a humorous site that encourages users to post photos with mouths drawn on them. This page achieves its purpose but doesn't display characteristics associated with a High rating, such as effort in the form of discussion, engagement, or comments from other users.
Medium: Entertainment 1  Article about "Keeping Up with the Kardashians" show	Nothing wrong, but nothing special  • Adequate MC: achieves the purpose of the page	This page is on a website dedicated to entertainment news. This page achieves its purpose but doesn't display characteristics associated with a High rating, such as effort in the form of interesting and entertaining content, original images, etc.

Webpage/Type of Content	Medium Quality Justification	PQ Rating and Explanation
Medium: Entertainment 2 Article about Miley Cyrus	Nothing wrong, but nothing special  • Adequate MC: achieves the purpose of the page	Lowest Medium Highest  This page is from a news/entertainment website. This page achieves its purpose but doesn't display characteristics associated with a High rating, such as effort in the form of interesting and entertaining content, original images, etc.
Medium: Lyrics  Song lyrics for the song "Never You/Fear Love"	Nothing wrong, but nothing special  • Adequate MC: achieves the purpose of the page	There are many lyrics websites that have similar content. This page achieves its purpose but doesn't display characteristics associated with a High rating, such as effort in the form of depth of content, originality, etc.
Medium: Recipe 1  Mexi-Chicken Casserole on a newspaper website	Nothing wrong, but nothing special  • Adequate MC: achieves the purpose of the page	Lowest Medium Highest  This recipe was contributed by a cookbook author. However, the page has no SC related to the purpose of the page, such as reviews or links to other recipes, etc. This page achieves its purpose but doesn't display characteristics associated with a High rating, such as effort in the form of original images or comments from users who followed the recipe.
Medium: Recipe 2  Recipe for cherry-topped cake	Nothing wrong, but nothing special  • Adequate MC: achieves the purpose of the page	Lowest Medium Highest  This website is known for high quality content about animals and the environment. This particular page has a recipe for kids. There isn't much MC or SC. This page achieves its purpose but it doesn't display characteristics associated with a High rating, such as effort in the form of more detailed steps or inspiration.

# 7.0 High Quality Pages

**High** quality pages serve a beneficial purpose and achieve that purpose well. **High** quality pages exist for almost any beneficial purpose you can imagine, from providing information to selling products to making people laugh to artistic expression.

To identify **High** quality pages, start by considering the following:

Initial Consideration	High Quality Pages
The purpose of the page	High quality pages have a beneficial purpose.
The potential for the page to cause harm as described in these guidelines	High quality pages are not expected to cause harm.
The topic of the page, the type of website, and the extent to which YMYL standards apply	A page on any topic or any type of website may qualify for <b>High</b> .  Give special scrutiny to pages on YMYL topics or websites needing a high level of trust, such as online stores.
The title of the page	High quality pages have titles that summarize the page.
The role of Ads and SC on the page	The Ads and SC do not block or significantly interfere with the MC on <b>High</b> quality pages.
	<b>Remember</b> : Many websites need monetization to share content with users. The presence or absence of Ads alone is not a consideration for PQ rating.
Information provided by the website and content creator	<b>High</b> quality pages have adequate information about the website and content creator for the purpose of the page. For stores or websites that process financial transactions, examine the customer service information.
	<b>Important:</b> For personal content shared on social media platforms or forums, an alias or username is adequate.

Next, assess the page to determine if the criteria for **High** apply:

High Page Quality Assessment	High Quality Pages must demonstrate at least one of the following
Quality of the MC	MC created with a high level of effort, originality, talent, or skill such that the page achieves its purpose well.
Reputation of the website and content creator	Positive reputation of the website for the topic of the page.
	Positive reputation of the content creator for the topic of the MC.
Trustworthiness of the page: E-E-A-T	High level of E-E-A-T for the purpose of the page.

### 7.1 High Quality Main Content

**High** quality MC should be satisfying for people visiting the page. High quality MC shows evidence of effort, originality, talent, or skill. For informational pages, High quality MC must be accurate and consistent with well-established expert consensus when such consensus exists. Have high standards! If you aren't sure whether the content is high quality, try finding other pages on the same topic to help calibrate your assessment: "typical" and "average" pages on a topic generally have Medium (not High) quality MC.

To help develop your standards, here are some examples of **High** quality MC in contrast with **Low** quality MC:

High Quality MC: Details and Examples	Low Quality MC: Details and Examples
<ul> <li>High level of effort: The website or content creators worked hard to create content that achieves the purpose of the page. The MC is well-organized, edited, and curated to support the purpose.</li> <li>A news article with accuracy, depth, and clarity</li> <li>A Q&amp;A page or forum post with meaningful discussion by multiple participants</li> <li>A well-organized crafting tutorial page with clear, helpful instructions so that others can make the craft successfully</li> </ul>	Low level of effort: The MC shows signs of a lack of effort by the website or content creators.  Lack of curation or editing: Content that helps the page achieve its purpose is mixed with less helpful distracting or filler content  Lack of content creation: A forum post with little discussion or only superficial comments  Lack of organization: A crafting tutorial page with lots of unhelpful "filler" at the top and little effort put into explaining how to make the craft (the purpose of the page) at the bottom
High originality	Information is summarized from other sources with little added value     Photos or videos come from other sources     A summary of the perspectives of others, such as summarizing product reviews written by others
High level of talent or skill              The MC showcases the talent of the creator, e.g. a video of a talented content creator dancing             The MC allows the page to achieve its purpose well because the content creator has talent or skill, e.g. a how-to article on plumbing by a skilled plumber	A lack of adequate talent or skill prevents the page from achieving its purpose, e.g. a how-to article on plumbing by someone who does not have the necessary skill to explain the steps accurately

## 7.2 Positive Reputation

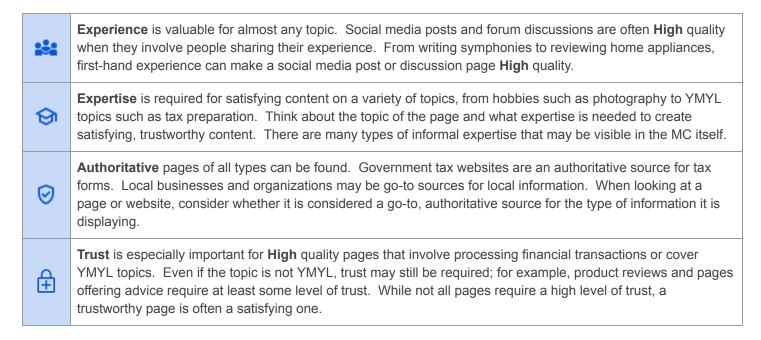
Positive reputation of the website can be a reason for a **High** rating if the website is responsible for the MC. If the website is not responsible for the MC (e.g., posts on social media websites or forums), positive reputation of the content creator(s) can be a reason for the **High** rating.

For non-YMYL topics, reputation information may be less formal. Popularity, user engagement, and user reviews can be considered evidence of reputation for non-YMYL websites: websites can be considered to have a positive reputation if they are popular and well-known for their topic or content type.

**Remember:** Many smaller websites and ordinary people have little reputation information available. A page can still receive a **High** rating without reputation information.

### 7.3 High Level of E-E-A-T

Depending on the purpose of the page, topic, and type of website, a high level of E-E-A-T may be required for the page to achieve its purpose well and be considered **High** quality. Pages with **High** E-E-A-T are trustworthy or very trustworthy.



Think about the topic of the page. What kind of E-E-A-T is required for the page to achieve its purpose well?

# 7.4 Examples of High Quality Pages

Webpage/Type of Content	High Quality Justification	PQ Rating and Explanation
High: News 1  Homepage of a newspaper	<ul> <li>Satisfying MC: achieves the purpose of the page well</li> <li>Positive website reputation for the topic of the page</li> </ul>	Lowest Medium Highest  The news on the homepage of a newspaper is often on topics that significantly impact society. This is a YMYL topic.  This is the homepage of a newspaper that has won several prestigious awards and has a positive reputation for its objective reporting. The articles on the homepage are original reporting by professional journalists (effort, skill, and original content unique to this site).
High: News 2  Opinion article on a newspaper website	<ul> <li>Satisfying MC: achieves the purpose of the page well</li> <li>Positive website reputation for the topic of the page</li> <li>High E-E-A-T for the purpose of the page</li> </ul>	This is an opinion piece written by the Editorial Board of the largest newspaper in the U.S. state of Minnesota. The page is clearly labeled as an opinion piece, welcoming a new football coach to the University of Minnesota. This is original content unique to this site that was created by a skilled editorial board with expertise in editorial opinion writing.
High: Government agency  US Naval Observatory Master Clock page	High E-E-A-T for the purpose of the page	The purpose of this page is to display the official US Naval Observatory Master Clock time in 7 different time zones. The page displays the clock information in a clear, easy-to-read format. The Naval Observatory is highly trustworthy and authoritative for this type of information.
High: Humor  Article on a humor website	<ul> <li>Satisfying MC: achieves the purpose of the page well</li> <li>Positive website reputation for the topic of the page</li> </ul>	This website is well-known for its humorous, satirical articles. This is a cute example of a satisfying and funny article (talent, skill, and original content unique to this site).
High: Small business 1 Local fish & chips restaurant	<ul> <li>Satisfying MC: achieves the purpose of the page well</li> <li>High E-E-A-T for the purpose of the page</li> </ul>	Lowest Medium Highest  This is an "about us" page on a restaurant website. This page provides information on when the restaurant opened and what visitors can expect. Other pages on the website provide information about the restaurant including the address, menu, other contact information, etc. The website is the go-to source for information about itself (Authoritative). The MC is high quality (effort, original content unique to this site).

Webpage/Type of Content	High Quality Justification	PQ Rating and Explanation
High: Small business 2 Local preservation center	<ul> <li>Satisfying MC: achieves the purpose of the page well</li> <li>High E-E-A-T for the purpose of the page</li> </ul>	Lowest Medium Highest  This is the News and Updates section of a local preservation center selling poultry, vegetables, and more (Expertise). The MC is high quality (effort, original content unique to this site).  Note: This example was added in 2014 so the "News and Updates" were timely.
High: Blog post  Parenting article about strollers	<ul> <li>Satisfying MC: achieves the purpose of the page well</li> <li>Positive content creator reputation for the topic of the page</li> <li>High E-E-A-T for the purpose of the page</li> </ul>	Lowest Medium Highest  This is a blog post on a newspaper that has won several prestigious awards. The author of this blog post has become known as an expert on parenting issues (Expertise) and is a regular contributor to this and other media websites (positive content creator reputation). The MC demonstrates effort and is original to this site.
High: Shopping 1  Backpack shopping page on a popular store website	<ul> <li>Satisfying MC: achieves the purpose of the page well</li> <li>Positive website reputation for the topic of the page</li> <li>High E-E-A-T for the purpose of the page</li> </ul>	The purpose of this page is to allow users to buy a school backpack. The page provides a lot of different backpack options, and some of them have user reviews.  This is a well-known, reputable merchant, with detailed Customer Service information on the site, making it very trustworthy (Trust). The MC demonstrates effort, and the products on sale are unique to this site (effort, original content).
High: Shopping 2  Bathroom décor page on a store website	<ul> <li>Positive website reputation for the topic of the page</li> <li>High E-E-A-T for the purpose of the page</li> </ul>	This company sells its own line of high end, fashionable baby and children's furniture and accessories. It has a positive reputation and expertise in these specific types of goods. Many products sold on the site are unique to this company.
High: Video 1 Saturday Night Live video on a video website	<ul> <li>Satisfying MC: achieves the purpose of the page well</li> <li>High E-E-A-T for the purpose of the page</li> </ul>	The MC of this video page is an episode of Saturday Night Live, which represents original content produced by a talented organization with experience and expertise in producing humorous television shows.

Webpage/Type of Content	High Quality Justification	PQ Rating and Explanation
High: Video 2  "An Engineer's Guide to Cats" video	<ul> <li>Satisfying MC: achieves the purpose of the page well</li> <li>High E-E-A-T for the purpose of the page</li> </ul>	Lowest Medium Highest  This is a humorous, high quality video, illustrating the proper care and practical benefits of cats (original content, talent). The two engineers in the video are very experienced in cat ownership (Experience). For a humorous video like this one, experience (rather than formal expertise in cat care) is enough for it to have high E-E-A-T.
High: Game Online game	<ul> <li>Satisfying MC: achieves the purpose of the page well</li> <li>Positive website reputation for the topic of the page</li> </ul>	Highly engaging game with multiple levels that could entertain a child for hours (effort, original content, talent and skill in game design). This website has a positive reputation for educating children about animals, and this particular animal game is consistent with that reputation.
High: Encyclopedia  Encyclopedia article about the American Civil War	<ul> <li>Satisfying MC: achieves the purpose of the page well</li> <li>Positive website reputation for the topic of the page</li> </ul>	Lowest Medium Highest  This is a detailed article about the American Civil War. The citations support the E-E-A-T of this article.  There is a large quantity of in-depth, original content (effort, accuracy). This website has a positive reputation as a good resource for finding a wealth of generally known facts about topics such as this one.  Note: Although much of the content is visible on the mobile page, we consider the content under the headings (which you need to expand) to be part of the MC. (To see the screenshot, you will need to zoom in to the image.)

# 8.0 Highest Quality Pages

**Highest** quality pages serve a beneficial purpose and achieve that purpose very well. The distinction between **High** and **Highest** is based on the quality of MC, the reputation of the website and content creator, and/or E-E-A-T.

To identify **High** quality pages, start by considering the following:

Initial Consideration	Highest Quality Pages
The purpose of the page	Highest quality pages have a beneficial purpose.
The potential for the page to cause harm as described in these guidelines	Highest quality pages are not expected to cause harm.
The topic of the page, the type of website, and the extent to which YMYL standards apply	A page on any topic or any type of website may qualify for <b>Highest</b> .  Give special scrutiny to pages on YMYL topics or websites needing a high level of trust, such as online stores.
The title of the page	Highest quality pages have titles that summarize the page.
The role of Ads and SC on the page	The Ads and SC do not block or significantly interfere with the MC on <b>Highest</b> quality pages.
	<b>Remember</b> : Many websites need monetization to share content with users. The presence or absence of Ads alone is not a consideration for PQ rating.
Information provided by the website and content creator	<b>Highest</b> quality pages have adequate information about the website and content creator for the purpose of the page. For stores or websites that process financial transactions, examine the customer service information.
	<b>Important:</b> For personal content shared on social media platforms or forums, an alias or username is adequate.

Next, assess the page to determine if the criteria for **Highest** apply:

Highest Page Quality Assessment	High Quality Pages must demonstrate at least one of the following
Quality of the MC	MC created with a very high level of effort, originality, talent, or skill such that the page achieves its purpose very well.
Reputation of the website and content creator	Very positive reputation of the website for the topic of the page.
	Very positive reputation of the content creator for the topic of the MC.
Trustworthiness of the page: E-E-A-T	Very high level of E-E-A-T for the purpose of the page.

### 8.1 Very High Quality MC

Very high quality MC should be highly satisfying for people visiting the page. Very high quality MC shows evidence of a high level of effort, originality, talent, or skill. For informational pages, very high quality MC must be accurate, clearly communicated, and consistent with well-established expert consensus when it exists. Very high quality MC represents some of the most outstanding content on a topic or type that's available online.

The standards for **Highest** quality MC may be very different depending on the purpose, topic, and type of website. Here are some examples of **Highest** quality original content:

- For news: Original reporting that provides information that would not otherwise have been known had the article not revealed it. Accurate, original, in-depth, and investigative reporting requires a high level of skill/talent and effort. Very high quality news content will include a description of primary sources and other original reporting referenced during the content creation process. Very high quality news content must be accurate and should meet professional journalistic standards.
- For artistic content (videos, images, photography, writing, etc.): Unique and original content created by highly
  skilled and talented artists or content creators. Such artistic content requires a high level of skill/talent and effort.
  If the artistic content is related to a YMYL topic (e.g., artistic content with the purpose of informing or swaying
  opinion about YMYL topics), YMYL standards should apply.
- For informational content: Original, accurate, comprehensive, clearly communicated, and should reflect expert consensus as appropriate. Expectations for different types of information may vary. For example, scientific papers have a different set of expectations than a social media post sharing information about a hobby such as stamp collecting. However, all types of very high quality informational content share common characteristics of accuracy and clarity of communication, in addition to meeting standards appropriate to the topic or field.

The **Highest** rating may be justified for pages with very satisfying MC created with a very high level of effort, originality, talent, or skill.

## 8.2 Very Positive Reputation

Reputation research is important when giving **Highest** ratings. For YMYL topics, very positive reputation is often based on recommendations from known experts or professional societies appropriate to the topic of the page. Prestigious awards may be evidence as well, depending on the topic and type of content.

For non-YMYL topics, reputation information may be less formal. Popularity, user engagement, and user reviews can be considered evidence of reputation for non-YMYL websites: websites and content creators can be considered to have a very positive reputation if they are seen as one of the best sources available online for a topic or type of content.

**Remember:** Many smaller websites and ordinary people have little reputation information. A page can still receive a **Highest** rating without reputation information.

### 8.3 Very High Level of E-E-A-T

Very high E-E-A-T is a distinguishing factor for **Highest** quality pages. A website or content creator who is the uniquely authoritative, go-to source for a topic has very high E-E-A-T. A content creator with a wealth of experience may be considered to have very high E-E-A-T for topics where experience is the primary factor in trust. A very high level of expertise can justify a very high E-E-A-T assessment. Very high E-E-A-T websites and content creators are the most trusted sources on the internet for a particular topic.

Think about what E-E-A-T means for the topic of the page. How important is first-hand experience? Who are the experts? What makes a source highly authoritative for the topic? What makes a website or content creator trustworthy for the topic? Standards for very high E-E-A-T will differ depending on the topic of the page.

# 8.4 Examples of Highest Quality Pages

Webpage/Type of Content	Highest Quality Justification	PQ Rating and Explanation
Highest: News 1  Article on a newspaper website	<ul> <li>Very satisfying MC: achieves the purpose of the page very well</li> <li>Very positive website reputation for the topic of the page</li> <li>Very high E-E-A-T for the purpose of the page</li> </ul>	Reporting on environmental toxicity can significantly impact the health and financial security of people, businesses and government agencies. This page is on a YMYL topic.  This is a feature article from a newspaper that has won numerous awards (very positive reputation of the website).  The page has a comprehensive amount of very high-quality MC, including in-depth reporting (effort, original content unique to this site, skill, accuracy) by authors with extensive knowledge and experience in investigative journalism (Expertise).
Highest: News 2 Article on a newspaper website	<ul> <li>Very satisfying MC: achieves the purpose of the page very well</li> <li>Very positive content creator reputation for the topic of the page</li> <li>Very high E-E-A-T for the purpose of the page</li> </ul>	This is an article on a newspaper website that has won a variety of awards.  The article has a comprehensive amount of very high quality MC that is unique and original, including in-depth investigative reporting by two authors with extensive knowledge and experience in investigative journalism (effort, original content unique to this site, skill, accuracy). The reporters were finalists for a prestigious news award for the investigative reporting of this article (very positive reputation of the content creators).
Highest: Informational 1  Fact-checking page on an Internet rumor debunking website	<ul> <li>Very satisfying MC: achieves the purpose of the page very well</li> <li>Very positive website reputation for the topic of the page</li> <li>Very high E-E-A-T for the purpose of the page</li> </ul>	This page is on a well-known fact-checking and debunking website that covers urban legends, Internet rumors, and other stories of unknown or questionable origin (very positive reputation of the website).  The page has a very satisfying amount of original MC for users seeking to validate a photo claiming to have discovered a mermaid (effort, skill in fact checking, original content). Users can trust the information on this page due to the website's positive reputation and high level of expertise in debunking stories of this type.

Webpage/Type of Content	Highest Quality Justification	PQ Rating and Explanation
Highest: Informational 2  Ball gown wedding dress page	<ul> <li>Very satisfying MC: achieves the purpose of the page very well</li> <li>Very positive website reputation for the topic of the page</li> </ul>	Lowest Medium Highest  This page has very satisfying MC for users interested in ball gown wedding dresses. An abundance of pictures, plus options to view by price range, style, etc., are part of what makes this page so satisfying (effort demonstrated in the depth and types of content). This page is on a very popular wedding planning website (very positive reputation of the website).
Highest: Government agency  Yosemite National Park information	<ul> <li>Very satisfying MC: achieves the purpose of the page very well</li> <li>Very high E-E-A-T for the purpose of the page</li> </ul>	Lowest Medium Highest  This page has very satisfying and helpful information about Yosemite National Park, including traffic alerts and links to other parts of the website with additional information (effort, accuracy). Since the page is on the official national park website, it is uniquely authoritative (highest E-E-A-T).
Highest: Technical 1 Software tips	<ul> <li>Very satisfying MC: achieves the purpose of the page very well</li> <li>Very high E-E-A-T for the purpose of the page</li> </ul>	Lowest Medium Highest  This page offers very satisfying and helpful MC for the purpose of the page. Because the page is on the official website of the company that produces the software, it is highly authoritative (highest E-E-A-T).
Highest: Technical 2 Linux Kernel archives	<ul> <li>Very positive website reputation for the topic of the page</li> <li>Very high E-E-A-T for the purpose of the page</li> </ul>	From this Wikipedia article, we learn that "Kernel.org is a main repository of source code for the Linux kernel, the base of the popular Linux operating system. It makes all versions of the source code available to all users The main purpose of the site is to host a repository for Linux kernel developers and maintainers of Linux distributions."  This website is the most authoritative source for information about Linux (highest E-E-A-T) and has a very positive reputation in the topic of the page.

Webpage/Type of Content	Highest Quality Justification	PQ Rating and Explanation
Highest: Financial 1 Credit report information website	<ul> <li>Very positive website reputation for the topic of the page</li> <li>Very high E-E-A-T for the purpose of the page</li> </ul>	Credit reports significantly impact a person's financial choices and opportunities. This is a YMYL topic.  Users in the U.S. can obtain free credit reports on this website by providing their Social Security Number. This Wikipedia article tells us that this website is "the only federally mandated and authorized source for obtaining a free credit report". This website is uniquely authoritative (highest E-E-A-T) and has a very positive reputation for credit report information.
Highest: Financial 2 Tax forms page	<ul> <li>Very positive website reputation for the topic of the page</li> <li>Very high E-E-A-T for the purpose of the page</li> </ul>	Income tax forms significantly impact a person's financial security. This is a YMYL topic.  The purpose of the page is to provide income tax forms and publications. The website represents an agency of the U.S. federal government that handles taxes, so the page and forms are uniquely authoritative and trustworthy.
Highest: Magazine Article 1  Article titled "Secret Fears of the Super-Rich"	<ul> <li>Very satisfying MC: achieves the purpose of the page very well</li> <li>Very positive website reputation for the topic of the page</li> </ul>	This article is on a magazine website that has won multiple National Magazine awards (very positive reputation for this type of article). The article has in-depth MC that is unique and original (effort, skill, original content).
Highest: Magazine Article 2 Interview with musical artist	<ul> <li>Very satisfying MC: achieves the purpose of the page very well</li> <li>Very positive website reputation for the topic of the page</li> </ul>	This magazine is very well-known and well regarded for content about artists and bands, and specifically has a positive reputation for interviews with musicians. This article features in-depth, original content in its interview with the artist.

Webpage/Type of Content	Highest Quality Justification	PQ Rating and Explanation
Highest: Medical 1 BMI calculator	<ul> <li>Very positive website reputation for the topic of the page</li> <li>Very high E-E-A-T for the purpose of the page</li> </ul>	BMI is used by healthcare professionals to screen for various health issues and can significantly impact a person's medical treatment. This is a YMYL topic.  The purpose of this page is to provide an online BMI (Body Mass Index) calculator. The calculator is functional and easy to use. This page was created with effort and skill, and it accomplishes its purpose very well by offering very high quality and satisfying MC.  The website represents an institute that is part of the National Institutes of Health. It has an extremely good reputation and is an expert in medical topics.
Highest: Medical 2 Page about meningitis	<ul> <li>Very positive website reputation for the topic of the page</li> <li>Very high E-E-A-T for the purpose of the page</li> </ul>	Information about meningitis could significantly impact a person's health. This is a YMYL topic.  This is a meningitis reference page on a trustworthy and authoritative website for a nonprofit medical research group. This website has a reputation of being one of the best web resources for medical information.
Highest: Medical 3  Page about seasonal flu	<ul> <li>Very positive website reputation for the topic of the page</li> <li>Very high E-E-A-T for the purpose of the page</li> </ul>	Many patient hospitalizations and deaths occur due to the flu each year. This topic could significantly impact a person's health. This is a YMYL topic.  This is an influenza reference page on a trustworthy and authoritative medical website. This website has a reputation of being one of the best web resources for medical information of this type.
Highest: Medical 4  Health information on a hospital page	<ul> <li>Very positive website reputation for the topic of the page</li> <li>Very high E-E-A-T for the purpose of the page</li> </ul>	Information about hospital services and treatments could significantly impact a person's ability to seek and receive healthcare. This is a YMYL topic.  According to this Wikipedia article, this hospital is "currently regarded as one of the top 4 hospitals in the United States as rated by U.S. News & World Report." Users can trust medical information on this website.

Webpage/Type of Content	Highest Quality Justification	PQ Rating and Explanation
Highest: Shopping Backpack shopping page	<ul> <li>Very satisfying MC: achieves the purpose of the page very well</li> <li>Very positive website reputation for the topic of the page</li> <li>Very high E-E-A-T for the purpose of the page</li> </ul>	The purpose of this page is to provide information about, and allow users to buy, a specific type of school backpack. The page provides a lot of helpful product information, as well as 600 user reviews (effort, original content).  Since the store produces this backpack (unique product), they are experts on the product, making the page on their own website authoritative (highest E-E-A-T). In addition, this store has a reputation for producing one of the highest quality and most popular school backpacks on the market.
Highest: Login Online banking login page	<ul> <li>Very positive website reputation for the topic of the page</li> <li>Very high E-E-A-T for the purpose of the page</li> </ul>	Lowest Medium Highest  Accessing one's financial information significantly impacts a person's financial decisions and security. This is a YMYL topic.  This page has login functionality and clear information about what the user is logging into. This is a large, popular bank that has a good reputation and is considered highly trustworthy.
Highest: Charity  Homepage of a charity	<ul> <li>Very positive website reputation for the topic of the page</li> <li>Very high E-E-A-T for the purpose of the page</li> </ul>	Lowest Medium Highest  Disaster relief significantly impacts people and society in a time of crisis. This page is on a YMYL topic.  This is a highly reputable charity according to multiple charity rating organizations.
Highest: PDF File Campus map	<ul> <li>Very satisfying MC: achieves the purpose of the page very well</li> <li>Very high E-E-A-T for the purpose of the page</li> </ul>	This PDF file is a detailed campus map of a major university, which is hosted on the official university website. This is a highly authoritative source for this information. The map includes a listing of all the buildings, parking structures, parking lots, construction areas, etc. (effort, skill, accuracy).

Webpage/Type of Content	Highest Quality Justification	tion PQ Rating and Explanation	
Highest: Recipe Chocolate chip cookie recipe on a recipe blog	<ul> <li>Very satisfying MC: achieves the purpose of the page very well</li> <li>Very high E-E-A-T for the purpose of the page</li> </ul>	The author of this blog has documented her extensive experimentation with a chocolate chip cookie recipe, and her expertise is demonstrated in the large quantity of original high or highest quality MC.  The author of this blog has documented her extensive experimentation with a chocolate chip cookie recipe (Experience), and her expertise and skill is demonstrated in the large quantity of unique, original, and very satisfying MC.	
Highest: Video 1  The band OK Go's music video for the song "This Too Shall Pass"	<ul> <li>Very satisfying MC: achieves the purpose of the page very well</li> <li>Very positive website reputation for the topic of the page</li> </ul>	This is a high quality, professionally produced video on the band's official channel. The music video represents unique and original content created by a highly skilled and talented musical artist (talent, skill, effort, original content).  In addition, this video sharing website has a positive reputation for hosting official music videos from bands.	
Highest: Video 2  "Henri 2, Paw de Deux" video	<ul> <li>Very satisfying MC: achieves the purpose of the page very well</li> <li>Very positive website reputation for the topic of the page</li> </ul>	This is an amateur video that went viral, created by a film school student about his mother's cat. It won the "Golden Kitty Award" for "Best Cat Video On The Internet" at the Walker Art Center's Internet Cat Video Film Festival. The video is unique and original content created with a high level of effort.  In addition, this video sharing website has a positive reputation for cute cat videos.	
Highest: Video 3  Saturday Night Live video on the TV network's website	<ul> <li>Very satisfying MC: achieves the purpose of the page very well</li> <li>Very positive content creator reputation for the topic of the page</li> <li>Very high E-E-A-T for the purpose of the page</li> </ul>	The MC of this video page is an episode of Saturday Night Live on the TV network's official website, which is a go-to source for this content. The episode represents high quality and original content created by a TV show that has won numerous awards. Below the main video, there are many other videos that users may be interested in.	

# 9.0 Page Quality Criteria for Specific Types of Pages

# 9.1 Ratings for Encyclopedia Pages

There are many encyclopedia-type websites. Some are highly-respected publications that are standard references, while some are websites with content created and edited by anonymous users, with no editorial oversight or fact checking. We may not always know the author of the specific encyclopedia article, and therefore must rely on website reputation research to determine the E-E-A-T of the article. **High** and **Highest** quality ratings should only be used for encyclopedias with very good reputations for accuracy and expertise, where the article itself is well-researched with appropriate references cited.

A note about Wikipedia: in general, the website has a good reputation and is a very popular resource that is generally valued for accuracy. However, there is no single author or organization that vouches for the accuracy of Wikipedia articles, and the quality of pages varies. You should check individual articles to evaluate the quality of the MC.

A Wikipedia article on a non-YMYL topic (<u>example</u>) with a satisfying amount of accurate information and trustworthy <u>external references</u> can usually be rated in the **High** range. A PQ rating in the **Medium** range is often appropriate for pages with less extensive MC and external references. Naturally, Wikipedia articles with very little MC should get lower PQ ratings. Factual inaccuracy is a sufficient reason for a **Low** or **Lowest** rating.

# 9.2 Ratings for Pages with Error Messages or No MC

In PQ rating tasks, you may encounter pages with error messages or other types of "broken" pages. Please think about whether the page offers help for users—did the website owner make an effort to ensure that users visiting the page have a good experience and get help finding what they are looking for?

Pages with an explicit error (or custom 404) message are often **Medium** quality, since they tend to clearly communicate that there's a problem and help users navigate to other/better pages on the website. A rating of **High** (or occasionally even **Highest**) may be used for the rare error message page that involves a high level of effort and original content and provides a truly satisfying experience for users.

Pages that are "broken" are often **Low** quality, because the broken aspect prevents them from achieving their purpose even if the problem is temporary and likely to be fixed later on by the website owner. However, sometimes "broken" pages should be rated **Lowest** if the problem is not temporary and instead is due to a systemic problem with the website. To differentiate between **Low** quality (temporarily broken) vs. **Lowest** quality (evidence of a systemic problem) pages, check other pages on the same website. If many other pages have the same problem, there is a systemic lack of effort on the part of the website owner that justifies the **Lowest** rating. Otherwise, use the **Low** rating to reflect the (hopefully temporary!) issue with the MC on the page.

Here are some examples:

Webpage/Type of Content	Characteristics of the Page	PQ Rating and Explanation
Lowest: Deliberately created with no MC (systemic problem)	No MC     Content created with little to no effort, talent, skill, originality, manual curation, or added value for users	This is an example of a page with no MC. You might think that the MC is "missing" due to a problem with this particular page, but in fact, this website has hundreds of pages that look the same—no MC, just Ads. This website shows Ads with little or no attempt to help users, and should be rated <b>Lowest</b> quality.

Webpage/Type of Content	Characteristics of the Page	PQ Rating and Explanation
Low: Page didn't fully load and has no MC (temporarily broken)	<ul> <li>No MC (probably due to a temporary technical error)</li> <li>Positive website reputation</li> </ul>	Lowest Medium Highest  This page has no MC and no error message. It is an isolated example of a page with no MC or error message on a website for a reputable newspaper for a town in Michigan. All of the navigation links work, and the page was later fixed. This page can be viewed as lacking in effort (an error that was not caught before the page went live).
Medium: Error page with custom 404 message	Nothing wrong, but nothing special	This is an example of a "custom 404" page, alerting users that the URL they are trying to visit no longer exists. Some websites do a nice job of alerting users about a problem and providing helpful tips.  This page is on a well-known merchant website with a good reputation. However, this particular page displays the bare minimum of content needed to explain the problem to users, and the only helpful content is a link to the homepage.
High: Error page with custom 404 message	<ul> <li>Satisfying MC: achieves the purpose of the page well</li> <li>Positive website reputation</li> </ul>	This is an example of a "custom 404" page, alerting users that the URL they are trying to visit no longer exists. This website does a nice job of explaining the issue and providing helpful tips, including a search box.
Highest: Error page with custom 404 message	<ul> <li>Very satisfying MC: achieves the purpose of the page very well</li> <li>Very positive website reputation</li> </ul>	This is an example of a "custom 404" page. These pages are designed to alert users that the URL they are trying to visit no longer exists. The MC of this page is the cartoon, the caption, and the search functionality, which is specific to the content of the website. It is clear that effort and talent was involved in the creation of the MC.  This publication has a very positive reputation and is specifically known for its cartoons, which allows us to go as high as High+ to Highest. This is among the most clever, original, and satisfying custom 404 messages that can be found online!

## 9.3 Ratings for Forums and Q&A Pages

Ratings for forum and Q&A pages can be challenging. Here is some guidance on how to approach these pages:

- The Main Content includes the question, the answers/responses, and the resulting discussions.
- Rate from the point of view of a user who visits the page, rather than a participant involved in the discussion.
- Users who post answers/responses or comments are often identified only by a username or alias. A page can be **High** or **Highest** quality with just usernames or aliases depending on other criteria.
- The E-E-A-T of a discussion among users can often be judged by the posts or comments themselves.
  - For some topics, Experience is the most important dimension of Trust. For other topics, assessing
     Expertise through the posts may be important. In some cases, the posters themselves will highlight either
     their own Experience or Expertise, or other people will comment on it.
  - Pages on YMYL topics require more attention to Trust and more care in the assessment of E-E-A-T.
- High and Highest quality forum/Q&A pages have satisfying conversations that involve many participants, some
  of whom put a great deal of effort into their posts and have a wealth of Experience and/or Expertise on the topic.
  Such conversations can be very satisfying because of the depth of discussion, the unique insights, or the sharing
  of experiences that many would not have access to in their real-world community.
- Low quality forum/Q&A pages often lack effort (few responses, surface-level rather than in-depth discussion), lack Experience or Expertise, contain mild inaccuracies, or show a significant lack of respect or decorum among the participants that might deter others from joining the discussion.
- **Lowest quality forum/Q&A pages** may contain information or advice that is harmfully misleading, contradicts well-established expert consensus, encourages harm towards self or other individuals/participants, etc.

Here are some examples:

Webpage/Type of Content	Characteristics of the Page	PQ Rating and Explanation
Lowest: Q&A page about chest pains and smoking	Harmfully Misleading Information:     Contains inaccurate and potentially dangerous medical advice about a YMYL topic	Information about chest pain and smoking could significantly impact people's decisions to seek medical treatment. This page is on a YMYL topic.  This page must be evaluated from the point of view of a user visiting this page from a search engine, rather than a participant. The question is poorly worded and difficult to understand. There aren't many responses. One response correctly warns about the danger of smoking cigarettes but suggests smoking marijuana instead. Another response suggests that it's fine to keep smoking and that aspirin can be used to address pain. The last response lacks respect: it asks if the person who asked the original question is stupid.  The answers have incorrect and potentially dangerous medical advice, making it lowest quality MC.

Webpage/Type of Content	Characteristics of the Page	ge PQ Rating and Explanation	
Low: Q&A page about a 2002 Volvo part	<ul> <li>Unsatisfying MC for the purpose of the page: does not achieve the purpose well</li> <li>Misleading page design</li> </ul>	Please read the MC (areas with red boxes around it), including the completely unhelpful "answer." This answer is so unhelpful, we can consider this question to be unanswered. This page has an unsatisfying amount of MC.  In addition to a very unhelpful "answer," the page design makes it difficult to distinguish the MC from Ads. For example, below the answer, we see a "sponsored answer," which has the same format as the real answer, but is actually an Ad and not an answer to the question—this is a misleading page design.	
Low: Q&A page about a game console	Unsatisfying MC for the purpose of the page: does not achieve the purpose well	Some websites rely on users to create virtually all of their MC. In this case, the MC is the user's question. If there are no answers, there is a lack of effort (since no one is participating or engaging by answering the user's question!). This page does not achieve its purpose well.	
Medium: Forum page on an online auction website	Mixed, but with some redeeming qualities:  High E-E-A-T for the purpose of the page Unsatisfying MC for the purpose of the page: does not achieve the purpose well	The relative lack of effort/participation in the discussion and depth of the MC is balanced by the high E-E-A-T of this forum. This forum is dedicated to this kind of question and therefore has a high level of expertise.	
Medium: Forum page on how to wash ballet shoes	<ul> <li>Mixed, but with some redeeming qualities:</li> <li>Adequate MC: achieves the purpose of the page</li> <li>Ads or SC significantly distract from or interrupt the use of MC</li> <li>High E-E-A-T for the purpose of the page</li> </ul>	This forum is about dance topics, and many pages have expertise from a community of ballet dancers. On this particular page, participants have first-hand experience washing ballet shoes and make recommendations based on their own experiences.  This page is "mixed" because there is some distracting content that makes it hard to read the MC. However, this is not a beauty contest! Even though the page may be cluttered, there is some valuable E-E-A-T and helpful MC, making Medium a good rating for this page.	

Webpage/Type of Content	Characteristics of the Page	PQ Rating and Explanation	
High: Forum post on the magic loop technique in knitting	<ul> <li>MC is satisfying for the purpose of the page: demonstrates effort, originality, talent, or skill</li> <li>High E-E-A-T for the purpose of the page</li> </ul>	The person who posted the first message on this forum page provides a helpful resource on how to master the magic loop technique in knitting (effort, skill). She also shares pictures of her own version using an old pair of blue jeans (original content). With over 20 years of experience knitting socks, we would consider her to be an expert on the topic.	
High: Q&A page about whether a Roomba will work	<ul> <li>Satisfying MC: achieves the purpose of the page well</li> <li>High E-E-A-T for the purpose of the page</li> </ul>	Many participants share their personal experiences with these products, giving details such as how well certain models work with pet hair (effort, first-hand experience, original content). There are many descriptions of participants' own experiences with this product and how well it works for them, making the MC satisfying for the purpose of the page.	
High: Forum page on authenticating a purse	<ul> <li>Satisfying MC: achieves the purpose of the page well</li> <li>Positive website reputation for the topic of the page</li> <li>High E-E-A-T for the purpose of the page</li> </ul>	This forum is a go-to source for discussions on luxury designer purses (positive website reputation, experience, expertise, "go-to" authority). On this particular forum page, members are consulting forum experts who have expertise authenticating bags from this brand. These experts can tell if a particular bag is authentic or fake. The quality of the MC is high due to the level of effort, skill, and engagement among those who participate in the forum. While there is an ad at the top and a few ads within the forum message, it does not distract from the MC, which is easy to find.	
High: Forum page on landscaping an aquarium	<ul> <li>Satisfying MC: achieves the purpose of the page well</li> <li>High E-E-A-T for the purpose of the page</li> </ul>	Lowest Medium Highest  This discussion focuses on the landscaping for a particular paludarium (an aquarium with terrestrial and aquatic elements). There is a lot of discussion and interaction between forum members about the types of materials and species used in the aquarium (effort, original or unique content). The posts show expertise in a niche topic aquarium landscaping (experience, expertise).	

Webpage/Type of Content	Type of Content Characteristics of the Page PQ Rating and Explanation	
Highest: Q&A page about how long most cancer patients live	<ul> <li>Very satisfying MC: achieves the purpose of the page very well</li> <li>Positive website reputation for the topic of the page</li> <li>Very high E-E-A-T for the purpose of the page</li> </ul>	How long a person may live with a disease could significantly impact life decisions. This is a YMYL topic.  This is a Q&A page on a medical question that is well-answered by non-experts with life experience. There are many responses describing how long a loved one lived after diagnosis. The focus of the page is experience, not medical advice. Many responses are based on personal experience and are helpful for this topic.
Highest: Q&A page on abbreviations	<ul> <li>Satisfying MC: achieves the purpose of the page well</li> <li>Very positive website reputation for the topic of the page</li> <li>Very high E-E-A-T for the purpose of the page</li> </ul>	The purpose of the page is to answer questions about the usage of abbreviations, and it contains helpful information about common abbreviation issues. This website has a very good reputation as a reference for information on writing, publishing, etc. It is considered highly authoritative and trustworthy for the topic of the page.

# 10.0 Page Quality Rating Tasks

At first, PQ rating may seem difficult. There are several aspects of the page and the website to look at and think about.

**Important**: Do not struggle with each PQ rating. Please give your best rating and move on. If you are having trouble deciding between two ratings, use the lower rating. If you are torn between three ratings, choose the one in the middle.

Do not consider the country or location of the page or website for PQ rating. For example, English (US) raters should use the same PQ standards when rating pages from other English language websites (UK websites, Canadian websites, etc.) as they use when rating pages from U.S. websites. In other words, English (US) raters should not lower the PQ rating because the page location (UK, Canada) does not match the task location.

These guidelines are specific to "regular" webpages. Occasionally, you may be asked to rate a landing page that is not a webpage. For example, you may be asked to rate a PDF file, a PNG or JPEG image file, etc. When the landing page of the URL is not a webpage, some of the criteria in these guidelines may not apply. In this case, please use your judgment.

Finally, this Page Quality Rating Guideline does not completely cover every aspect of page quality. If you find pages that you truly believe to be **High** or **Low** quality, please rate them as such, even if the reason is based on something not covered in these guidelines. Please use the comment section to explain your reasoning. As always, use your judgment.

# 10.1 Instructions for Rating Page Quality Tasks

#### The Page Quality task page is broken up into several parts:

- 1. Some initial questions about the task landing page.
- 2. A "PQ grid" to record your observations about PQ characteristics of the landing page.
- 3. The Overall PQ rating slider which records your Overall PQ rating.
- 4. A comment box to explain your rating.

Some results to the initial questions will end the task early. If the page is Porn, Foreign Language, Did Not Load, or consists of restricted or inaccessible MC (e.g., subscription is required to view MC), you will not fill in the PQ grid or assign an overall rating.

- **Foreign Language** should not be used when the language on the landing page is in the task language, a language that is commonly used by a significant percentage of the population in the task location, or English.
- Did Not Load should be used for pages where there is absolutely no content on the page created by the website.
   There is no MC, SC, or Ads on the page. See this <u>Wikipedia article</u> for descriptions of different types of error messages.

The PQ grid is designed to be your "note pad." It allows you to record your observations about the landing page and the website it belongs to.

# 10.2 Page Quality Rating FAQs

Question	Answer	
Why do we have to do all these steps? This takes a long time!	With practice, the amount of time needed for accurate PQ ratings will decrease. The steps are important and are designed to help you assess many different aspects of PQ. You may be surprised by what you find. Pages that initially look Low quality may turn out to be Medium or High quality with careful inspection. The reverse may happen as well. We want your most informed, thoughtful opinion.	
Are we just giving High quality ratings to pages that "look" good?	No! The goal is to do the exact opposite. These steps are designed to help you analyze the page without using a superficial "does it look good?" approach.	
	Sharing a personal experience or opinion can be a beneficial purpose as it allows people to appreciate different perspectives. Content on the Internet can help people understand why others think and feel the way they do.	
Is sharing a personal experience or opinion a beneficial purpose? What if	It can be valuable to see the opinions and perspectives of others, even when they are off-putting, distasteful, upsetting, or offensive to you personally. Apply the standards of these guidelines rather than your own personal opinions or views.	
the personal opinion is upsetting or offensive?	However, sometimes opinions and perspectives can spread misleading information or otherwise have the potential to cause harm. Therefore, apply the standards in these guidelines to all types of pages and content.	
	<b>Remember</b> : Your assessment of harm happens before and overrides other considerations such as the life experience or expertise of the content creator.	
Can life avenagiones instifus	Factual information and advice on YMYL topics should come from experts. Sharing life experience on YMYL topics can be <b>Highest</b> quality, but it must be trustworthy, safe, consistent with well-established expert consensus, and speak to topics that life experience is valuable for.	
Can life experience justify a Highest quality rating for a page on a YMYL topic?	For example, information about when and where to vote is a YMYL topic. It's possible to have a <b>Highest</b> quality page that shares life experience about voting, such as an inspiring personal post about becoming a citizen and voting for the first time. However, if a page about someone's voting experience gives inaccurate information about when and where to vote either deliberately or through careless oversight, the page should be rated <b>Lowest</b> because it could cause others to miss the opportunity to vote.	
	Remember that we are not just talking about formal expertise. Informal expertise is equally important, and for some topics may be a more common type of E-E-A-T.	
You talked about expertise when rating MC. Does expertise matter for all topics? Aren't there some topics for which there are	For most page purposes and topics, you can find experts even when the field itself is niche or non-mainstream. For example, there are expert alternative medicine websites created by leading practitioners of acupuncture, herbal therapy, etc. There are also pages about alternative medicine written by people with no expertise or experience. E-E-A-T should differentiate between these two scenarios.	
no experts?	<b>Reminder</b> : If the page is harmful to people or society, untrustworthy, or spammy as defined in these guidelines, expertise and experience doesn't matter. It should be rated <b>Lowest</b> .	

Question	Answer
When I think about E-E-A-T, it seems like expertise and experience overlap a lot. What's the difference?	<ul> <li>Expertise often involves objective, testable knowledge or skills, for example: can you calculate the load bearing weight of a bridge?</li> <li>Experience can be more subjective and is often shared through personal narration, for example: how does it feel to experience love for another person?</li> <li>For PQ rating, it's not important to distinguish between expertise and experience. Instead, focus on what kind of content is trustworthy and satisfying for the purpose of the page. You may find that both expertise and experience can be trustworthy and satisfying for the same topic. For example, a medical website may be a trustworthy source for treatment options, and the experiences of other people who have gone through treatment may provide emotional support and prepare you for what to expect.</li> </ul>
Aren't some types of pages always Low quality, such as celebrity gossip?	For almost any type of page or informational topic, there is a range of content quality.  For example, there are both <b>High</b> and <b>Low</b> quality celebrity gossip pages. The purpose of these pages is to share interesting, accurate information about celebrities. There may be benefits in celebrity stories that inspire others or help people going through similar challenges. A celebrity gossip page is <b>High</b> quality if it has accurate and interesting information, has no characteristics of Low or Lowest quality, and comes from a reasonably reliable source.
I've never seen a High quality page of type X. If there are no high quality pages of this type, why are we giving existing pages a Low quality rating?	For some topics or types of pages, there may not be many (or any!) High quality pages now, but there may be in the future. We need a uniform set of standards that apply to all pages, even for pages that have not yet been created.
Some of these criteria seem unfair. For example, some art pages do not have a purpose. Are these pages Low quality?	Art pages do have a purpose: artistic expression. Pages created for artistic expression do not deserve the Low quality rating simply because they have no other purpose. Artistic expression, humor, entertainment, sharing photos and videos, etc. are all valid and beneficial page purposes.
How should interstitials factor into my rating?	Sometimes clicking on the task URL will bring up an interstitial page. You can ignore this page in your rating criteria if you can easily get to the MC. However, if the interstitial makes it extremely hard (or impossible) to get to the MC and evaluate how well the page achieves its purpose, that should factor into your PQ rating.

# Part 2: Understanding Search User Needs

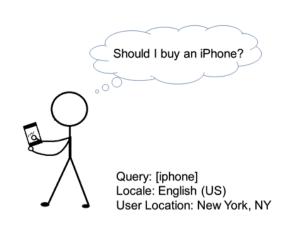
# 12.0 Understanding Search Users, Queries, and Results

Why do people search the Internet?

People use Internet search engines to perform many different tasks in different environments using different types of devices, such as mobile phones, tablets, laptops, or computers. Keep in mind that searches can be simple or complex, and the underlying task that a person is trying to accomplish may take multiple steps to complete. For example, a simple task may be to find the director of a movie. A complex task may be to find a movie's showtimes nearby, purchase tickets, and get directions to go to the theater. Overall, search engines should make it easy for people to complete tasks by surfacing helpful results right away.

## 12.1 Important Rating Definitions and Ideas





**Query**: This refers to the text that a user types or the audio a user speaks into a device. In these guidelines, queries have square brackets around them. If a user says "coffee shops near me," we display: [coffee shops near me]. If a user types "flights to New York" in the search box, we display: [flights to New York].

There are many different types of queries because people use their devices to do many things, from searching for specific websites to looking for answers to specific questions to browsing videos for inspiration.

**User:** The user is the person trying to find information or accomplish a task. Keep in mind that users are people from all over the world: people of all ages, genders, races, religions, political affiliations, etc.

**User Intent**: When a person types or speaks a query, he or she is trying to accomplish something. We refer to this goal as the user intent.

**Locale**: All queries have a locale, which is the language and region for the task. Regions are represented by a two-letter country code, for example, "US" in the locale "English (US)". For a current list of country codes, <u>click here</u>. We sometimes refer to the locale as the task location.

**User Location**: Sometimes more specific information about the location of the person searching is provided, usually a city or state. In rating tasks, this information may be shown on a map.

**Search Engine Results Page (SERP):** The page a search engine shows after a user enters a query in the search box. The SERP is made up of **result blocks**.

**Result**: We will use the word **result** to refer to the result block *and* the landing page.

- **Result Block:** This is an individual "block" that appears on the user's device in response to the query. The result block may display information in the block itself or contain links, or may do both.
- The Landing Page (LP) is the page you see after you click a link in the result block.

# 12.2 Understanding the Query

Understanding the query is the first step in evaluating the task. Remember, a query is what a user types or speaks into their device.

Some tasks include a query research link, which you should use if you don't understand the query or user intent. Otherwise, please do web research using Google or an online dictionary or encyclopedia. If you still don't understand the query or user intent, please release the task.

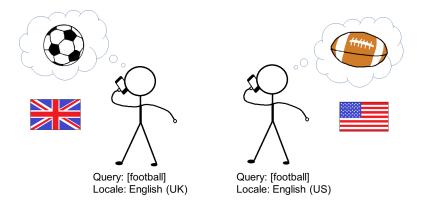
**Important**: If you research the query on Google, please do not rely on the top results on the SERP. A query may have other meanings not represented on Google's search results pages. Do not assign a high rating to a webpage just because it appears at the top of a list of search results on Google.

Think about users in your locale typing or speaking the following queries into their phone.

Query	Likely User Intent
[population of paris], English (US)	Find the current population of Paris, France.
[starbucks near me], English (US)	Find the nearest Starbucks location.
[weather], English (US)	Find weather information in the user location right now.

## 12.3 Locale and User Location

All queries have a task language and task location (referred to in rating tasks as the "Locale"). The locale is important for understanding the query and user intent. Users in different locales may have different expectations for the same query.



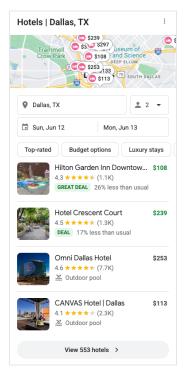
Some tasks show a user location in addition to a locale.

However, for many or most queries in a given locale, the user location does not change our understanding of the query and user intent. Here are some examples: [facebook.com], [pictures of kittens], [distance between the earth and the moon].

When is the locale or user location important in understanding query interpretation and user intent? Please use both web research and your personal judgment to answer this question. Ask yourself, "Would people in one city or country be looking for something different than people in another city or country?"

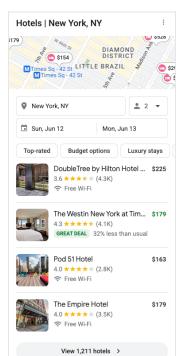
## 12.4 Queries with an Explicit Location

Sometimes people tell search engines exactly what kinds of results they are looking for by adding the desired location in the query, regardless of their own location. We'll call this location inside the query the "explicit location." The explicit location makes queries much easier to understand and interpret.



"My mom is coming to visit. I need to find a hotel for her nearby"

Query: [Dallas hotels] Locale: English (US) User Location: Dallas,TX Explicit Location: Dallas



"I need a hotel for my trip to New York"

Query: [New York hotels] Locale: English (US) User Location: Dallas,TX Explicit Location: New York

Sometimes the explicit location matches the user location or locale, and sometimes it doesn't.

When there is an explicit location in the query, pay attention to it! People use explicit locations to indicate exactly what they are looking for.

### 12.5 Queries with Multiple Meanings

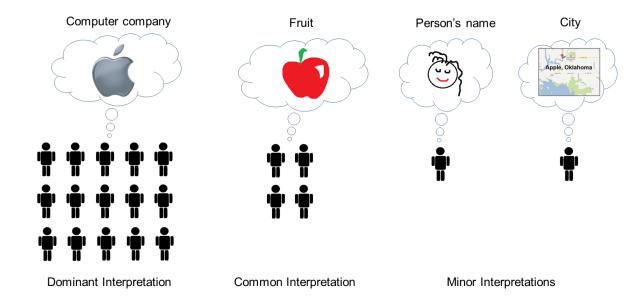
Many queries have more than one meaning. For example, the query [apple] might refer to the computer brand or the fruit. We will call these possible meanings **query interpretations**.

**Dominant Interpretation**: The *dominant interpretation* of a query is what most users mean when they type the query. Not all queries have a dominant interpretation. The dominant interpretation should be clear to you, especially after doing a little web research.

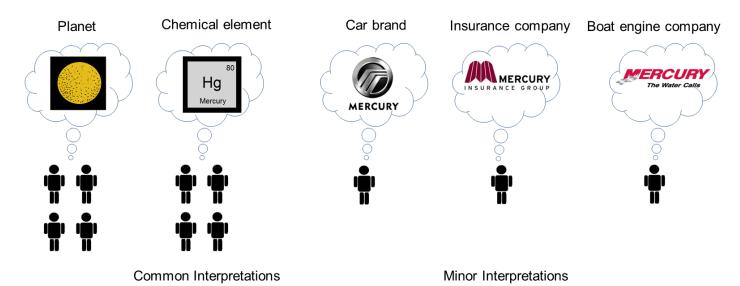
**Common Interpretation**: A *common interpretation* of a query is what many or some users mean when they type a query. A query can have multiple common interpretations.

**Minor Interpretations**: Sometimes you will find less common interpretations. These are interpretations that few users have in mind. We will call these *minor interpretations*.

Query: [apple] Locale: English (US)

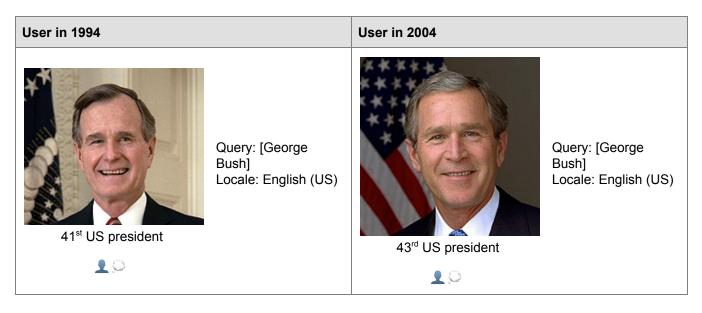


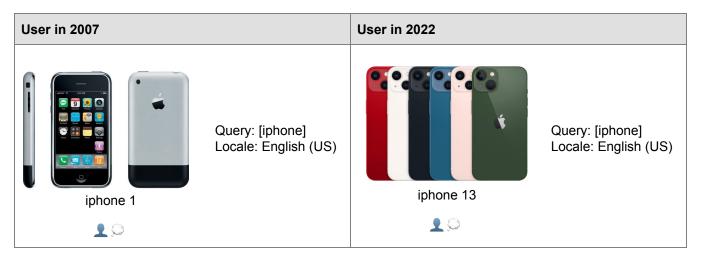
Query: [mercury] Locale: English (US)



## 12.6 Query Meanings Can Change Over Time

Remember to think about the query and its current meaning as you are rating. We will assume users are looking for current information about a topic, the most recent product model, the most recent occurrence of a recurring event, etc., unless otherwise specified by the query.





The interpretation of the query [iphone], English (US) has changed over time as new iPhone models are released. The first iPhone was introduced in 2007. Users searching for [iphone], English (US) at that time were looking for the new (at the time) first iPhone model. Most users now are looking for the most recent or upcoming iPhone model. In the future, new models will come out and the dominant interpretation will change again.

# 12.7 Understanding User Intent

It can be helpful to think of queries as having one or more of the following intents.

- Know query, some of which are Know Simple queries
- Do guery, when the user is trying to accomplish a goal or engage in an activity
- **Website** guery, when the user is looking for a specific website or webpage
- **Visit-in-person** query, some of which are looking for a specific business or organization, some of which are looking for a category of businesses

#### 12.7.1 Know and Know Simple Queries

The intent of a **Know** query is to find information on a topic. Users want to **Know** more about something.

**Know Simple** queries are a special type of **Know** query. **Know Simple** queries seek a very specific answer, like a fact, diagram, etc. This answer has to be correct and complete, and can be displayed in a relatively small amount of space. As a general rule, if most people would agree on a correct answer, and it would fit in 1-2 sentences or a short list of items, the query can be called a **Know Simple** query.

**Know Simple** queries may be questions such as [how tall is barack obama]. Frequently, **Know Simple** queries do not have question words. For example, [barack obama height] has the same user intent as [how tall is barack obama], but is not in a question format.

Most queries are *not* **Know Simple** queries, such as:

- Broad, complex, and/or in-depth informational queries that do not have a short answer
- Ambiguous or unclear informational queries
- Informational queries on controversial topics
- Informational queries with no definitive "right answer"
- Queries where different users may want different types of information, or different sources of information.

Here are some examples where the **Know Simple** query asks for a simple fact, which can be answered correctly and completely in a small amount of space, and the **Know** query answer is more complex.

Know Simple Query	Know Query	Explanation
[barack obama height] [how tall is obama]	[barack obama]	The <b>Know</b> query is a broad information query and different users may be looking for different things (e.g., biography, books, social media posts, etc.).
[new york city population 2013]	[new york city]	The <b>Know</b> query is a broad information query and different users may be looking for different things (e.g., tourist and trip planning information, facts, photographs, history).
[who is graves disease named after]	[graves disease]	The <b>Know</b> query is a broad query for medical information and different users may have different needs. There is no single "answer" for this query.
[macy's store hours]	[macy's gift wrap options]	The <b>Know</b> query is a broad query for a particular service offered by a department store, and does not have a short answer.
[what is the symbol for the element nickel]	[what nickel is used for]	The <b>Know</b> query is a broad query and there is no short, complete answer.
[who won the 2014 bcs national championship game]	[who is going to win the bcs national championship game]	The <b>Know</b> query asks for an opinion and there is no definitive answer.
[what is starbucks stock price]	[should i invest in starbucks stock]	Even though the <b>Know</b> query is theoretically a yes/no question, there is not a single answer that everyone would agree on.
[weather]	[how do people predict the weather]	The query [weather] may seem like a broad information query, but most people likely have a fairly simple informational need: to find the current or upcoming temperature, and the chance of local weather events such as rain or snow. Therefore, consider queries like [weather], [weather today], [weather tomorrow], [weather this week] to be <b>Know Simple</b> queries.
		In contrast, the Know query is a broad information query and different users may be looking for different things.

#### 12.7.2 Do Queries

The intent of a **Do** query is to accomplish a goal or engage in an activity. The goal or activity may be to download, to buy, to obtain, to be entertained by, or to interact with a website or app. Users want to **Do** something.

Here are some examples.

Query	Likely User Intent	
[get my GED online]	Obtain U.S. high school equivalency diploma online.	
[online personality test]	Take an online personality test.	
[what is my bmi?]	Calculate BMI (body mass index).	
[pay parking ticket]	Pay for a parking ticket.	
[watch stranger things]	Watch the TV show "Stranger Things".	

#### 12.7.3 Website Queries

The intent of a **Website** query is to locate a specific website or webpage that users have requested. This single webpage is called the **target** of the query.

One type of Website query is a URL Query, which can be:

- Exact, perfectly-formed, working URLs, such as [http://www.ibm.com] or [www.ibm.com] or [ibm.com].
- Imperfect URL queries: Queries that look like URL queries, but are not "working URLs". These URLs do not load if you type or paste them into your browser address bar. Even so, we believe users have a specific page in mind.

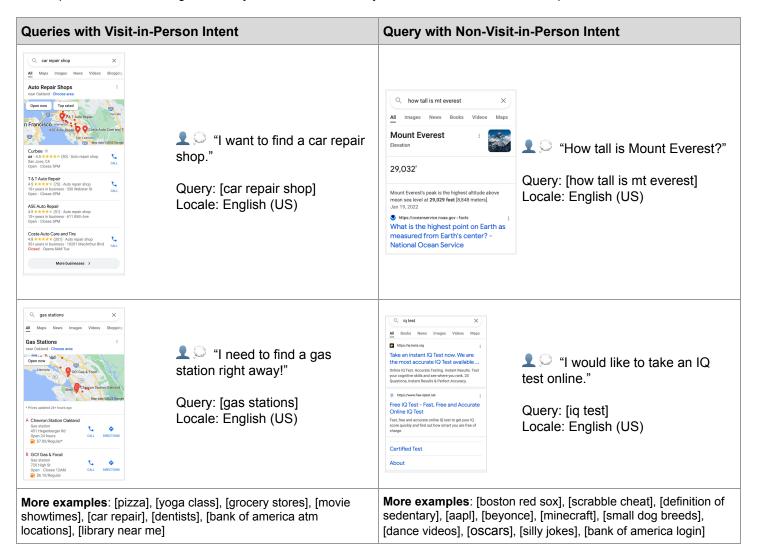
Here are some examples.

Query	Likely User Intent
[reddit login]	View the login page for Reddit.
[tiktok]	View the TikTok website.
[yahoo mail]	View the Yahoo Mail website.
[walmart.com]	View the Walmart website.
[featherchair.com featherweight 13.5 lbs. wheelchair]	View the Featherweight 13.5 lbs. wheelchair product page on the Feather Chair website.

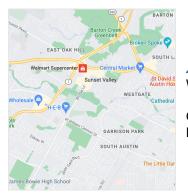
#### 12.7.4 Visit-in-Person Queries and User Location

People use search engines to look for **Visit-in-Person** information, such as finding nearby coffee shops, gas stations, ATMs, restaurants, etc.

Some queries clearly "ask" for nearby information or nearby results (e.g., businesses, organizations, other nearby places). Some queries are not asking for nearby information or nearby results. Here are some examples.

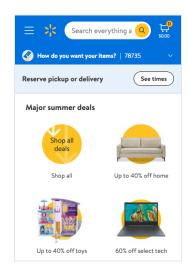


And some queries could go either way. Some users may want nearby results and others may not.



■ "I want to go to a Walmart near me."

Query: [walmart] Locale: English (US)



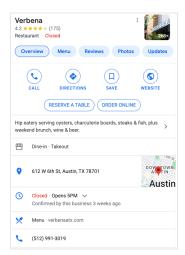
I want to shop online on the Walmart website"

Query: [walmart] Locale: English (US)

Here are some examples of queries with both visit-in-person and non-visit-in-person intent:

- [hotels]
- post office]
- [h&m]
- [library]
- [bank of america]
- [the gap]

Sometimes, the user location can change our understanding of the query. For users close to Austin, Texas, the query [verbena] could have two different interpretations: a popular restaurant named Verbena or the plant verbena.



♣ "What is the address of Verbena?"

Query: [verbena] Locale: English (US) User Location: Austin,TX



I want to learn more about the plant verbena."

Query: [verbena] Locale: English (US) User Location: Austin, TX

In most other user locations, there is no restaurant (or anything else) named Verbena and there is just one interpretation of the query [verbena]: the plant. The Austin restaurant is not well-known outside of Austin, TX.



• "I want to learn more about the plant verbena."

Query: [verbena] Locale: English (US) User Location: Flint, MI

Use your common sense when thinking about queries and whether they have possible visit-in-person intent.

### 12.7.5 Queries with Multiple User Intents

Many queries have more than one likely user intent. Please use your judgment when trying to decide if one intent is more likely than another intent.

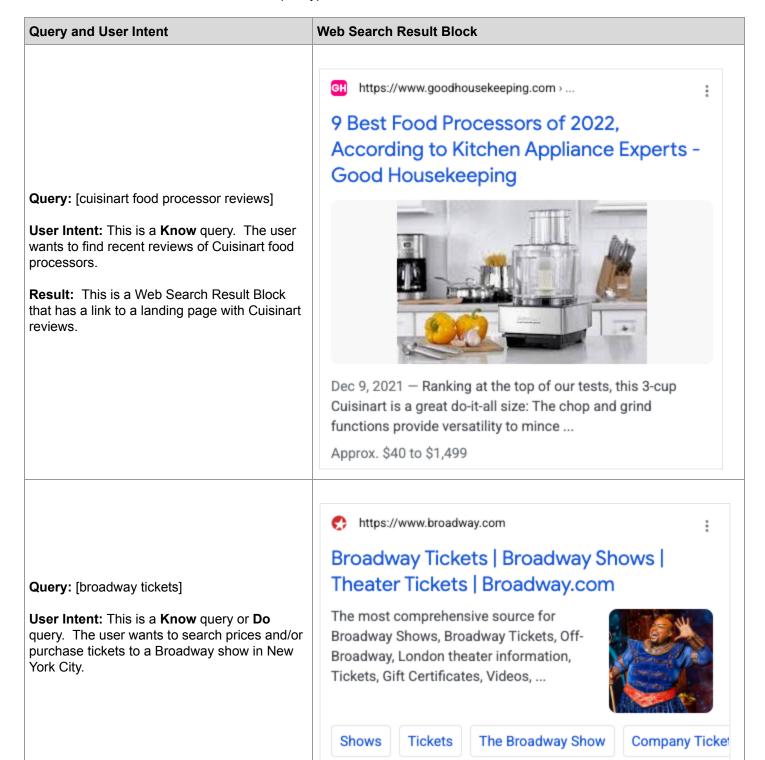
Query	Likely User Intent	
[harvard]	Depending on the user need and location, users may want to visit the official homepage ( <b>Website</b> ), get directions ( <b>Visit-in-Person</b> ), or learn more about the school ( <b>Know</b> ).	
[walmart]	Most users want to go to a nearby Walmart ( <b>Visit-in-Person</b> ) or view the homepage to shop online ( <b>Website</b> ). Some or few users may want to learn more information about the company ( <b>Know</b> ).	

## 12.8 Understanding Result Blocks

The following sections contain examples of different types of queries and results.

### 12.8.1 Web Search Result Block Examples

Web Search Result Blocks typically have a title link, a URL and a "snippet" of text describing the page. For many queries, Web Search Result Blocks are the most helpful type of result.



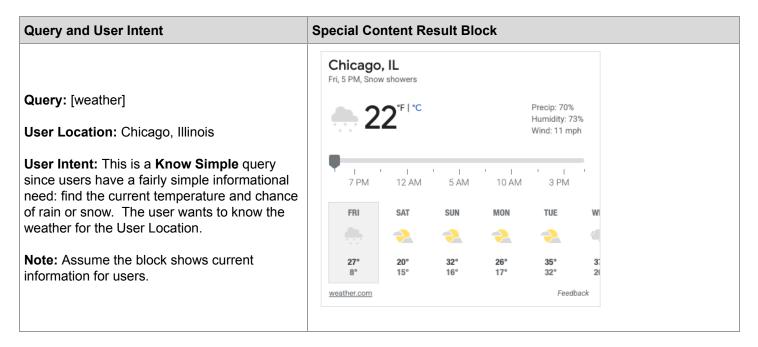
### 12.8.2 Special Content Result Block Examples

Special Content Result Blocks (SCRBs) appear in the search results page, along with Web Search Result Blocks.

Special Content Result Blocks are designed to show content directly to users on the search results page. From working calculators to playable videos to interactive weather information, these results help users immediately get information or content. Some SCRBs may also have links to landing pages.

**Important**: Please assume that any interactive features work and function properly. Some notes:

- All result blocks are "screenshots" or images of search results with prominent links enabled. Unfortunately, a
  screenshot or image of an interactive result block will not function as it would for a real user. For the purpose of
  rating, please assume that interactive result blocks do function as intended. Try to interact with the result
  block as some links, buttons, or other features may work.
- There may be a delay between when the rating task is created and when you actually rate the block, causing some information in special content result blocks to be a few hours or even days out of date. Stock price or weather informational blocks are designed to give users extremely current and timely information. However, due to a delay in rating time, the information may no longer be accurate. Don't penalize a special content result block for being out of date. Assume that the blocks show current information for users, unless instructed otherwise.



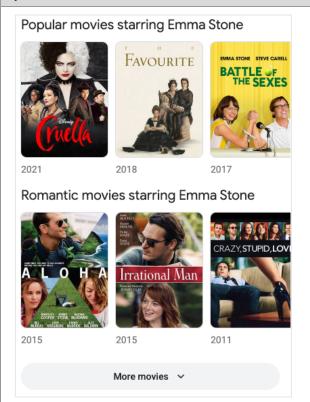
# **Query and User Intent**

## **Special Content Result Block**

**Query:** [emma stone movies]

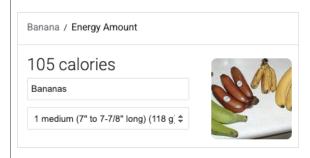
**User Intent:** This is a **Know** query. The user wants to get information on movies with Emma Stone.

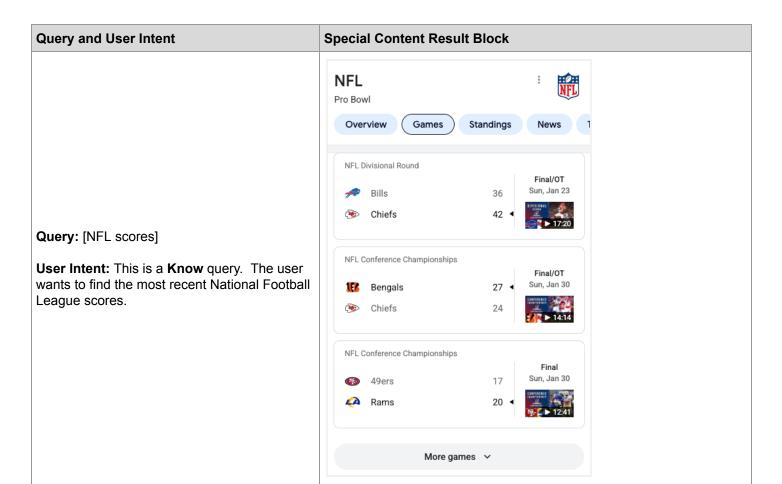
**Result:** In this result block, users can immediately see some popular movies starring Emma Stone, with an option to click on the links to learn more about each movie. Users can also swipe to see a list of more movies.



Query: [calories in a banana]

**User Intent:** This is a **Know Simple** query. The user wants to find out how many calories are in a banana.

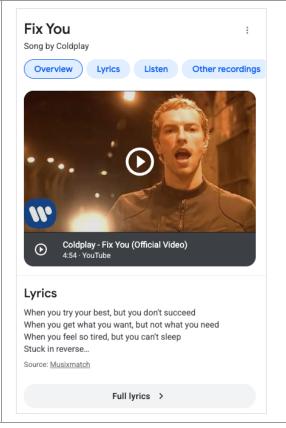




Query: [coldplay fix you video]

**User Intent:** This is a **Do** query. The user wants to watch the music video for the song "Fix You" by Coldplay.

**Result:** By clicking on this result block, users can play the music video for the song, learn more about the artist/album, etc.



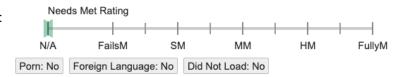
# **Query and User Intent Special Content Result Block** Tallest tree Query: [what is the tallest tree] **User Intent:** This is a **Know Simple** query. The tallest trees in the world are redwoods The user wants to know what type of tree is (Sequoia sempervirens), which tower above the the tallest. ground in California. These trees can easily reach heights of 300 feet (91 meters). Among the redwoods, a tree named Hyperion dwarfs them all. The tree was discovered in 2006, and is 379.7 feet (115.7 m) tall. Apr 17, 2013 https://www.livescience.com > 2872... What Is the World's Tallest Tree - Live Science

# **Part 3: Needs Met Rating Guideline**

# 13.0 Rating Using the Needs Met Scale

There are many different kinds of queries and results, but the process of rating is the same: **Needs Met rating tasks ask** you to focus on user needs and think about how helpful and satisfying the result is for the users.

This is what the Needs Met rating slider looks like:



Rating	Description	
Fully Meets (FullyM)	A special rating category, which only applies to certain queries and results. All or almost all users would be immediately and fully satisfied by the result and would not need to view other results to satisfy their need.	
Highly Meets (HM)	Very helpful for many or most users. Some users may wish to see additional results.	
Moderately Meets (MM)	Helpful for many users OR very helpful for some users. Some or many users may wish to see additional results.	
Slightly Meets (SM)	Helpful for fewer users. There is a connection between the query and the result, but not a strong or satisfying connection. Many or most users would wish to see additional results.	
Fails to Meet (FailsM)	Completely fails to meet the needs of the users. All or almost all users would wish to see additional results.	

Please note that you may assign **in-between** ratings. Use in-between ratings if you think the rating of a result falls between two labels. You can either drag the slider or click on the point that you want the slider to land on.

# 13.1 Rating Result Blocks: Block Content and Landing Pages

For Needs Met rating, you will assign a rating to each result. Each result includes the content inside the result block and landing pages associated with the result.

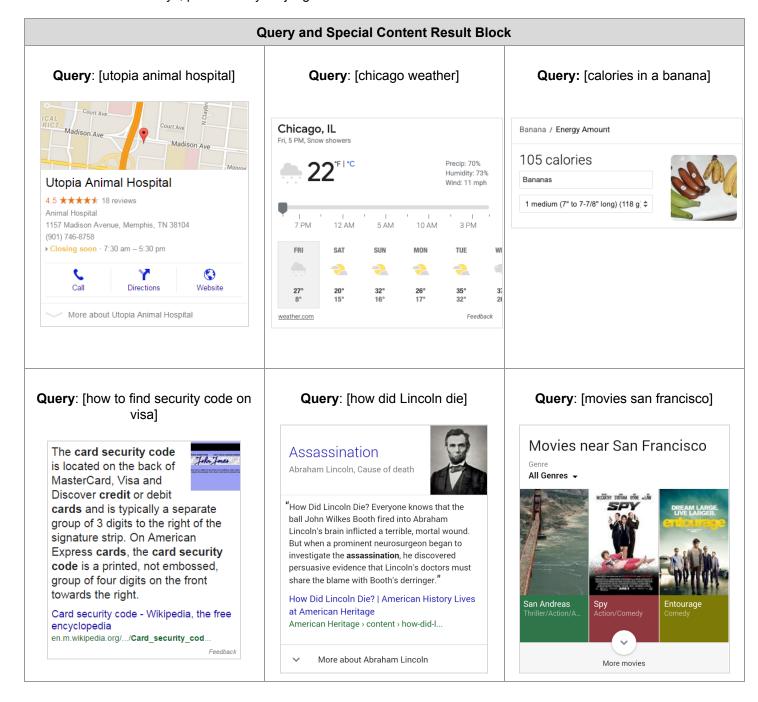
Which part of the result do you rate? It depends on both the query and the result block:

Type of Block	What to Rate	
Special Content Result Block (SCRB)  Note: Assume that interactive result blocks function as intended. Try to interact with the result block as some links, buttons, or other features in your rating task may work.	<ul> <li>The content inside this type of block should always play a large role in your rating.</li> <li>Some Special Content Result Blocks may have links to landing pages. In these cases, think about whether a user would click on the link in order to satisfy their user need.</li> <li>If most users would not click, rate the Special Content Result Block based on the block content alone.</li> <li>If some or many users would click, you may consider the helpfulness of the landing page(s) in addition to the content in the block. In this case, both need to be helpful to justify a high rating.</li> </ul>	
Web Search Result Block	A click is required, and you should evaluate the landing page to assign a rating.	

For example, think about the query [what does love mean].

Result Block	Query: [what does love mean]	Rating
Special Content Result Block	Iove	Most users would probably not click on the Special Content Result Block, because the block contains a large amount of helpful content and has no obvious landing page link associated with it.  Therefore, base your rating on the content inside the block itself.
Web Search Result Block	What Is Love? We Spoke to the Merriam-Webster Lexicographer www.themarysue.com/definition-of-love/ Mobile-friendly - Nov 7, 2013 - "Love" is a word we all use and understand, but defining such a complex idea seems like a daunting	In this case, users would have to click on the web search result in order to get an answer to the question.  Therefore, base your rating on the content of the landing page.

Here are some examples of Special Content Result Blocks where the block should be rated primarily on the content inside the block itself. As always, please use your judgment.



Note: The guidance in this section specifically applies to Needs Met ratings. For Special Content Result Blocks that have landing pages, you may or may not also be asked to provide PQ ratings. In these cases, your PQ rating should always be based on the landing page. Please refer to Section 14.0 for more about the relationship between Needs Met and Page Quality ratings.

### 13.2 Fully Meets (FullyM)

**Fully Meets** is a special rating category, which can be used in the following situations:

- The guery and user need must be specific, clear, and unambiguous.
- All or almost all users would be completely satisfied by the result—users issuing that query would not need additional results to fully satisfy the user intent.

In other words, the **Fully Meets** rating should be reserved for results that are the "complete and perfect response or answer" so that no other results are necessary for all or almost all users to be fully satisfied.

You will need to use your judgment to decide whether a result block can **Fully Meet** the user need. Here are some scenarios when the **Fully Meets** rating is appropriate:

- The user is clearly looking for a specific webpage or website and the result block with the specific webpage or website **Fully Meets** the user's need.
- The user is looking for a very specific fact or piece of information and the result block provides the information thoroughly, accurately, and clearly, and is from a high quality source. No other results would be needed. Before using the **Fully Meets** rating for queries seeking a very specific fact or piece of information, you must check for accuracy and confirm that the information is supported by expert consensus where such consensus exists.

**Fully Meets** may apply in other situations as well. Ask yourself whether the result block alone is the perfect and complete result that would fully satisfy all or almost all users. Be conservative when using the **Fully Meets** rating. When in doubt, consider a lower rating.

Note: If a result block is very close to being fully satisfying, but the block alone may not be sufficient in order to fully satisfy all or almost all users, a rating of **Highly Meets+** may be appropriate.

Sometimes you have to think about how specific the user need is and will need to make a judgment call on whether it is specific enough to possibly have a **Fully Meets** rating.

#### 13.2.1 Examples of Fully Meets (FullyM) Result Blocks

Query and User Intent	Result	Rating	Fully Meets Explanation
Query: [amazon]	Amazon.com www.amazon.com		The query has clear intent to go to the amazon.com website. While there may be other
<b>User Intent:</b> Go to the Amazon website.	Mobile-friendly - Online retailer of books, movies, music and games along with electronics, toys, apparel, sports, tools, groceries and	FailsM SM MM HM FullyM	interpretations for the query, the dominant one is by far the website.
Query: [target website]	Target: Expect More. Pay Less. www.target.com/ Spend \$50 and get free shipping on over 500K items. Choose from a wide selection of furniture, kids	FailsM SM MM HM FullyM	The query has clear intent to go
<b>User Intent:</b> Go to the Target website.	Mountain View Target Find Store  Women's Electronics  Home: Decor, FurmWeekly Ad	railsm sm wifi FIM FUIIYM	to target.com.

Query and User Intent	Result	Rating	Fully Meets Explanation
Query: [shop nordstrom online]  User Intent: Go to the Nordstrom website for online shopping.	Nordstrom m.shop.nordstrom.com/ Mobile-friendly - Shop online for shoes, clothing, jewelry, dresses, makeup and more from top brands. Make returns in store or by mail.	FailsM SM MM HM FullyM	The query has clear intent to go to the Nordstrom website.
Query: [titanic imdb] User Intent: Go to the IMDb page for Titanic.	Titanic - IMDb m.imdb.com/title/tt0120338/ **** Rating: 7.7/10 - 663,660 votes Mobile-friendly - Titanic Experience James Cameron's Titanic like never before. Leonardo DiCaprio and Kate Winslet Titanic Jack	FailsM SM MM HM FullyM	The query has clear intent to go to the IMDb page for Titanic.
Query: [www.yahoo.c0m] User Intent: Go to the Yahoo website.	Yahoo https://www.yahoo.com/ Mobile-friendly - A new welcome to Yahoo. The new Yahoo experience makes it easier to discover the news and information that you	FailsM SM MM HM FullyM	Even though this is an imperfect URL query, it's clear the user wants to go to the Yahoo website.
Query: [cnn health] User Intent: Go to the Health section of cnn.com.	Health News - Medical, Mental and Dental www.cnn.com/HEALTH/ Mobile-friendly - Discover the latest news and video about health at CNN. CNN covers diet, fitness , parenting, conditions and more,	FailsM SM MM HM FullyM	The query has clear intent to go to the Health section of the cnn.com webpage.
Query: [cnn] User Intent: Go to the CNN website.	CNN.com www.cnn.com/ Mobile-friendly - CNN.com delivers the latest breaking news and information on the latest top stories, weather, business, entertainment,	FailsM SM MM HM FullyM	The query has clear intent to access CNN news and content. The website has the content the user is searching for, and fully satisfies the user intent.
Query: [lebron james stats basketball- reference.com]  User Intent: Go to the player statistics page for LeBron James on a specific website.	LeBron James NBA & ABA Stats   Basketball-Reference.com www.basketball-reference.com > > J 6/19 Factory of Sadness: Intel: LeBron James Opting in or Signing With Cavs: Just following the NBA Finals we wrote that Well, that's the latest talk, as noted by ESPN and others.	FallsM SM MM HM FullyM	The query has clear intent to go to the player statistics page for LeBron James on a specific website, basketball-reference.com.
Query: [chef chu phone number]  User Location: Los Altos, California  User Intent: Find the phone number for the restaurant called Chef Chu's.	San Antonio Shopping Center Victor Walmart & Carlot Office Churs, Phone  More about Chef Churs	FailsM SM MM HM FullyM	Chef Chu's is a Chinese restaurant located in the user location. This result block shows the correct phone number with the option to call the number directly on the device—it <b>Fully Meets</b> the user intent.  Note: You must check for accuracy before using the <b>Fully Meets</b> rating. You can verify that the phone number in this SCRB is correct by checking Chef Chu's official website.

Query and User Intent	Result	Rating	Fully Meets Explanation
Query: [how to find Mac OS version]  User Intent: Find out how to locate the OS version of a Mac.	From the Apple menu & in the corner of your screen, choose About This Mac. You should see the macOS name, such as macOS Monterey or macOS Big Sur, followed by its version number. If you need to know the build number as well, click the version number to see it. 3 days ago  ith https://support.apple.com .en-us Find out which macOS your Mac is using - Apple Support	FailsM SM MM HM FullyM	The result block displays the complete and correct answer prominently in the result block, in a way that is easy for users to read, and comes from a high quality, authoritative source for Apple product information. The result block <b>Fully Meets</b> the user need.
Query: [new york city population 2012]  User Intent: Find the population of New York City back in 2012.	8.337 million (2012) New York City, Population  10M  5M  2000  Los Angeles 3.858 million (2012)  Sources include: United States Census Bureau	FailsM SM MM HM FullyM	The result block displays the complete and correct answer prominently in the result block, in a way that is easy for users to read—it <b>Fully Meets</b> the user need.
Query: [what is the weather forecast for today]  User Location: Mountain View, California  User Intent: Find weather forecast information for the current day in Mountain View, California.	Mountain View, CA Fri, 3 PM, Sunny  68°F1°C  Precip: 0% Humidity: 40% Wind: 10 mph  5 PM	FailsM SM MM HM FullyM	The result block displays the complete and correct answer prominently in the result block in a way that is easy for users to read, and comes from a high quality source. This result <b>Fully Meets</b> the user need.  Remember that we consider weather queries, like this one, to be a <b>Know Simple</b> query.
Query: [what country is mount fuji in]  User Intent: Find the country in which Mount Fuji is located.	Japan  Mount Fuji, Japanese Fuji-san, also spelled Fujisan, also called Fujiyama or Fuji no Yama, highest mountain in Japan. It rises to 12,388 feet (3,776 metres) near the Pacific Ocean coast in Yamanashi and Shizuoka ken (prefectures) of central Honshu, about 60 miles (100 km) west of the Tokyo-Yokohama metropolitan area.    https://www.britannica.com.place   Mount Fuji   Facts, Height, Location, & Eruptions - Encyclopedia Britannica	FailsM SM MM HM FullyM	The result block displays the complete and correct answer prominently in the result block, in a way that is easy for users to read, and comes from a high quality, trustworthy encyclopedia. The result block <b>Fully Meets</b> the user need.

Query and User Intent	Result	Rating	Fully Meets Explanation
Query: [chevron at shoreline and middlefield]  User Location: Mountain View, California  User Intent: Find the specific gas station specified by the user in order to visit the location in person.	Chevron 3.9 ***** 16 reviews · 1.2 mi Gas Station  808 N Shoreline Blvd, Mountain View, CA 94043  More about Chevron	FailsM SM MM HM FullyM	The intent is to visit the specific gas station specified by the user. This result block is for the specified Chevron location, with information to visit this location in person.
Query: [decemberists crane wife 3 lyrics]  User Intent: See the lyrics to The Decemberists song called "Crane Wife 3."	The Crane Wife 3  Song by The Decemberists  Overview  Lyrics  Listen  Analysis  And under the boughs unbowed All clothed in a snowy shroud She had no heart, so hardened All under the boughs unbowed Each feather it fell from skin Til threadbare, as she grew thin How were my eyes so blinded? Each feather it fell from skin And I will hang my head, hang my head low And I will hang my head, hang my head low A gray sky, a bitter sting A rain cloud, a crane on wing All out beyond horizon A gray sky, a bitter sting And I will hang my head, hang my head low And I will hang my head, hang my head low And I will hang my head, hang my head low And I will hang my head, hang my head low And I will hang my head, hang my head low And I will hang my head, hang my head low And I will hang my head, hang my head low And I will hang my head, hang my head low And I will hang my head, hang my head low And I will hang my head, hang my head low And I will hang my head, hang my head low And I will hang my head, hang my head low And I will hang my head, hang my head low, low, low Source: LyricFind Songwriters: Colin Meloy The Crane Wife 3 lyrics © BMG Rights Management	FailsM SM MM HM FullyM	The result has exactly what the user wants, displaying the lyrics to the specified song clearly and completely inside the result block, and comes from a source with high E-E-A-T for this topic. The user does not need to click to a new page to see the complete lyrics for this song.  Note: The lyrics posted on LyricFind are licensed.

Query and User Intent	Result	Rating	Fully Meets Explanation
Query: [nearby coffee shops]  User Location: Mountain View, California  User Intent: Find coffee shops near the user location.	Cheap Upscale Top rated Open now MO  Red Rock Coffee 4.1 ** ** ** * (641) * \$\$ Coffee Shop * Castro St Local coffee shop with art & live  Starbucks 3.8 ** ** ** (67) * \$\$ Coffee Shop * Pear Ave Iconic Seattle-based coffeehous  Clocktower Coffee Roasting 3.9 ** ** ** * (45) * \$ Coffee Shop * E Middlefield Rd Coffee, gift & pastry shop with patio	FailsM SM MM HM FullyM	The intent is to find coffee shops near the specific user location, represented by the blue dot on the map.  This result block has a very satisfying list of nearby, popular, and prominent options within a few miles of the specific location. This kind of block is especially helpful for users who want to visit the business in person. Note that these blocks are interactive—clicking on a coffee shop will give options to call the business, get directions, read reviews, etc.  Note: A range is included because some users would be fully satisfied with these selections, while some users would want more information (e.g., hours, distance from location, longer list of options).
Query: [1600 pennsylvania ave washington dc]  User Location: Bakersville, California  User Intent: Find a map, directions, information about what is located at this address, etc.	H St NW Lafayette Square  The White House  W Washington D.C.  ESt NW Map data ©  NW, Washington, DC  20500	FailsM SM MM HM FullyM	This block contains a map with the queried address, link to get directions, and specifies the landmark at the well-known address on the map ("The White House").  It's not unusual to search for an address (or business) that is far from the user location. Here, the user has explicitly asked for a specific address in a far away place, and this result is very satisfying. For a query this specific, the user location does not change the rating.  Note: A range is included because some users would be fully satisfied with this result, while some users would want more information (e.g., photos, a brief description).

Query and User Intent	Result	Rating	Fully Meets Explanation
Query: [metro center station]  User Location: Adams Morgan, Washington D.C.  User Intent: The user wants to see a map, schedule, transfer options, and/or other train information for the Metro Center station, given that the user is close to the queried station.	Metro Center station 3.2 ** **** ** 3 4 reviews Subway Station  Directions  Shady Grove  Shady Grove  Shady Grove  11:19 AM >  Red  Silver Spring  11:20 AM >  When Reston East  11:20 AM >  Solver Spring  11:20 AM >  Solver Spring  11:20 AM >  More about Metro Center station	FalsM SM MM HM FullyM	This block contains a map, link to get directions, departure times for the multiple train lines that operate at this station, link to a detailed schedule (i.e., the "Departure board"), and an option to see more information.  Since the user is located in the same city as the station, the information in this block is highly satisfying.  Note: A range is included because some users would be fully satisfied with this result, while some users may want more information (e.g., nearby attractions, ticket prices).

# 13.2.2 Examples of Queries that Cannot Have Fully Meets Results

There are some queries that *cannot* have a **Fully Meets** result. Here are some examples.

Type of Query	Example	No Fully Meets Result: Explanation
Broad queries where no single result could fully satisfy all users	[knitting]	This is a broad informational query. Knitting is an activity anyone can do and that anyone can create a website for. Different users may want different types of content: videos, instructions, patterns, etc. There is no one official source for knitting information and no one result could satisfy most users. Therefore, no <b>Fully Meets</b> result is possible for this query.
	Famous names e.g., [barack obama]	This is a broad informational query and it is impossible to know exactly what the user is looking for.
	[ada]	There is no dominant interpretation for this query. The following entities are all common interpretations: Americans with Disabilities Act, American Dental Association, and American Diabetes Association. While each interpretation has an official homepage, none is <b>Fully Meets</b> since there is no dominant interpretation.
Ambiguous queries without a clear user intent or dominant interpretation	Non-famous people names e.g., [sam wen]	Queries for people's names can be tricky.  Many or most people queries do not have a dominant interpretation. Even unusual sounding name queries may not have a dominant interpretation. For example, the queries [sam wen], [tran nguyen], and [david mease] can have no <b>Fully Meets</b> result because there are multiple people with each of these names, and it is not clear that most users are looking for any one particular individual.

## 13.3 Highly Meets (HM)

A rating of **Highly Meets** is assigned to results that meet the needs of many or most users. **Highly Meets** results are highly satisfying and a good "fit" for the query. In addition, they often have some or all of the following characteristics: high quality, authoritative, entertaining, and/or recent (e.g., breaking news on a topic).

In order to receive a **Highly Meets** rating, information pages such as encyclopedia articles and news articles must be accurate and highly credible. **Highly Meets** medical and scientific information pages must represent well-established scientific/medical consensus unless the user is clearly seeking an alternative viewpoint. For all information pages, you must check for accuracy and confirm that the information is supported by expert consensus where such consensus exists.

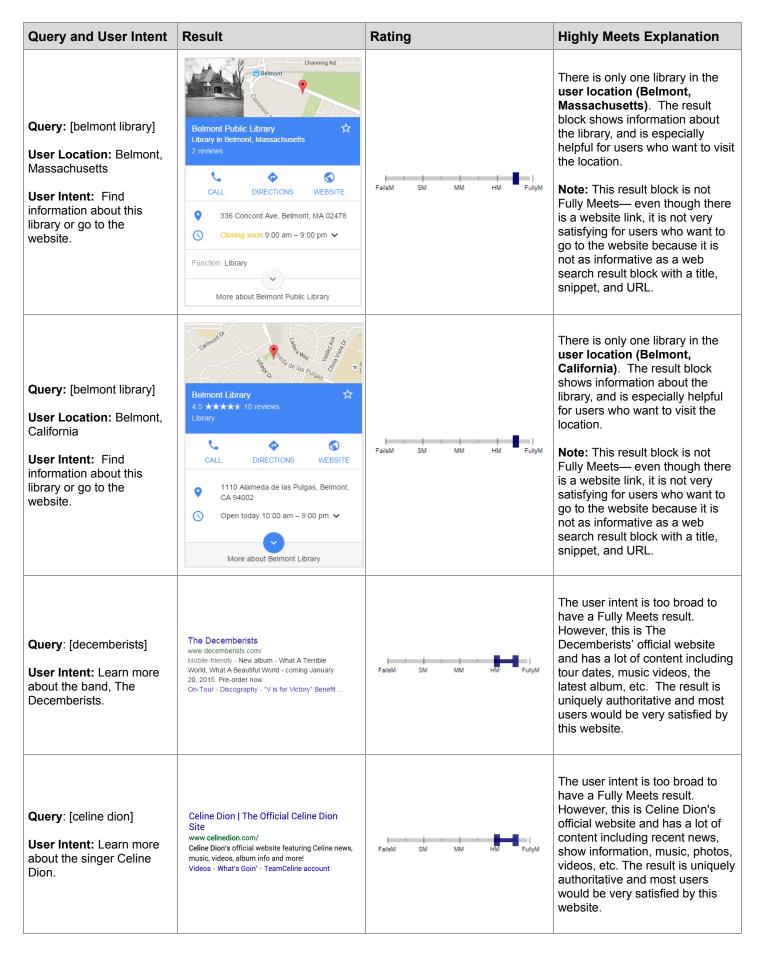
A query can have many **Highly Meets** results.

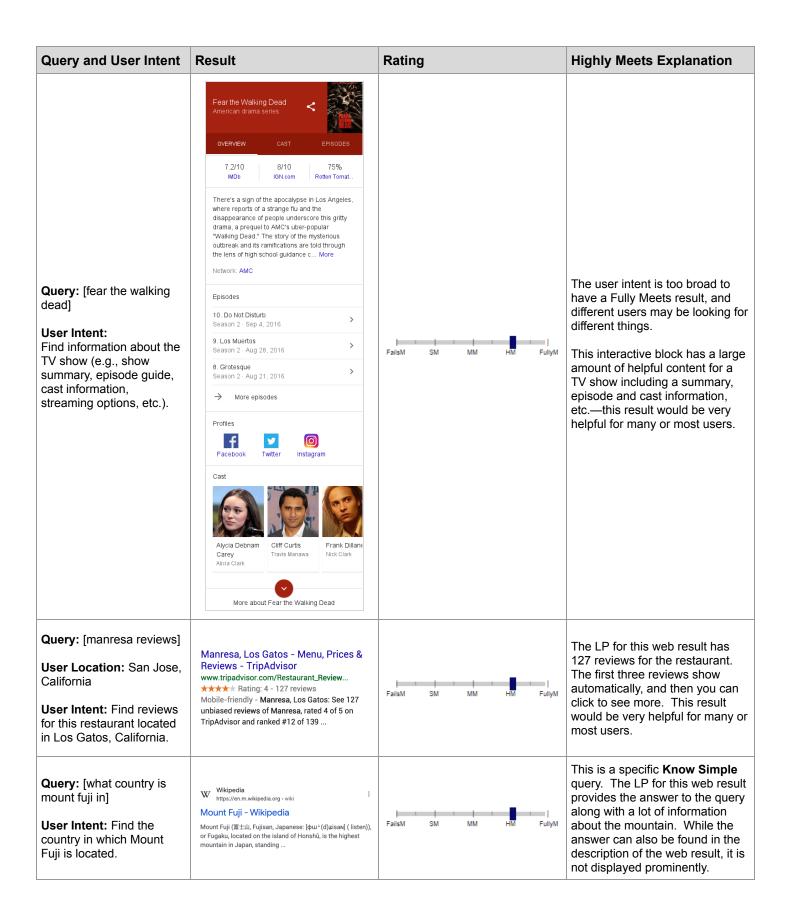
Have high standards for the **Highly Meets** rating. This is especially important for queries with many on-topic results.

## 13.3.1 Examples of Highly Meets (HM) Result Blocks

Query and User Intent	Result	Rating	Highly Meets Explanation
Query: [trader joes]  User Location: Charlotte, North Carolina  User Intent: There are two possible user intents: most users probably want to visit a nearby location or go to the website.	A Trader Joe's 1820 E Arbors Dr Charlotte Open until 9:00 pm  C Trader Joe's 6418 Rea Rd Charlotte Open until 9:00 pm  C ALL DIRECTIONS  OPEN UNTIL 9:00 pm	FailsM SM MM HM FullyM	This result shows a complete list of all three locations in the Charlotte area, with information that is especially helpful for users who want to visit the store.  Note: This result block is not Fully Meets because users who want to go to the website to see coupons, promotions, etc. would have to see additional results.
Query: [trader joes]  User Location: Charlotte, North Carolina  User Intent: There are two possible user intents: most users probably want to visit a nearby location or go to the website.	Trader Joe's www.traderjoes.com  Mobile-friendly - <b>Trader Joe's</b> is a neighborhood grocery store with amazing food and drink from around the globe and around the corner	FailsM SM MM HM FullyM	This is the official website for Trader Joe's, which has highly authoritative information on the businesses' stores, promotions, recipes, news, etc.  Note: This result block is not Fully Meets because users who want information to visit the store have to do a bit of work to find that information—it is not immediately available.
Query: [museum of modern art]  User Location: Manhattan, New York  User Intent: There are two possible user intents: most users probably want to visit the museum (note that the user is located in NYC where the museum is located) or go to the website.	MoMA   Museum of Modern Art Museum of Modern Art > Mobile-friendly - The Museum of Modern Art (MoMA) is a place that fuels creativity, ignites minds, and provides inspiration. Hours & Admission - Calendar - Buy Tickets	FailsM SM MM HM FullyM	This is the museum's official website and has very helpful information about exhibits, membership, the store, etc.  Note: This result block is not Fully Meets because users who want information to visit the museum have to do a bit of work to find that information—it is not immediately available.

Query and User Intent	Result	Rating	Highly Meets Explanation
Query: [museum of modern art]  User Location: Manhattan, New York  User Intent: There are two possible user intents: most users probably want to visit the museum (note that the user is located in NYC where the museum is located) or go to the website.	Museum of Modern Art  Museum in New York City, New York  4.5 ★★★★ 971 reviews  CALL DIRECTIONS WEBSITE  11 W 53rd St, New York, NY 10019  Closing soon 10:30 am − 5:30 pm ✓  Upcoming events  Evening Tours of MoMA's Mast Sat, Apr 25 5:30 PM  Mother's Day at MoMA Sun, May 10 9:00 AM  Profiles  Facebook Twitter Google+  ✓ Artwork and overview	FailsM SM MM HM FullyM	The result block shows information about the museum, and is especially helpful for users who want to visit the museum.  Note: This result block is not Fully Meets— even though there is a website link, it is not very satisfying for users who want to go to the website because it is not as informative as a web search result block with a title, snippet, and URL.
Query: [prestige bmw] User Location: Ramsey, New Jersey User Intent: There are two possible user intents: most users probably want to visit the car dealership or go to the website.	Prestige BMW  4.4 *** 138 reviews BMW Dealer  CALL DIRECTIONS WEBSITE  985 NJ-17, Ramsey, NJ 07446  Closing soon 9:00 am – 8:00 pm   More about Prestige BMW	FailsM SM MM HM FullyM	The query is the name of a car dealership in New Jersey, which is the only dealership with that name in the user location (Ramsey, New Jersey). The result block shows information about the dealership, and is especially helpful for users who want to visit the business.  Note: This result block is not Fully Meets— even though there is a website link, it is not very satisfying for users who want to go to the website because it is not as informative as a web search result block with a title, snippet, and URL.
Query: [prestige bmw]  User Location: Ramsey, New Jersey  User Intent: There are two possible user intents: most users probably want to visit the car dealership or go to the website.	Prestige BMW www.prestigebmw.com  Mobile-friendly - Prestige BMW is the new, used & CPO BMW dealership in Ramsey, NJ near New York. We serve the area's BMW lease,	FailsM SM MM HM FullyM	This is the car dealership's official website and has very helpful information about inventory, financing, etc.  Note: This result block is not Fully Meets because users who want information to visit the dealership have to do a bit of work to find that information—it is not immediately available.





Query and User Intent	Result	Rating	Highly Meets Explanation
Query: [broadway tickets]  User Location: New York, New York  User Intent: Research prices and/or purchase tickets to a Broadway show.	Broadway tickets, show dates, calendar. Official Ticketmaster site. www.ticketmaster.com/broadway Find and buy broadway show tickets at Ticketmaster.com.	FailsM SM MM HM FullyM	The LP for this web result offers many Broadway tickets for sale, from a highly trustworthy source. While you have to zoom in and scroll to navigate the site, this result would be very helpful for many or most users because it is so highly trustworthy.
Query: [kids backpacks]  User Intent: Research prices and/or purchase backpacks for kids.	Kids' School Backpacks & Messenger Bags   Free Shipping from L.L www.llbean.com/llb//818?backpacks Our durable kids' backpacks are loaded with pockets and features - like padded shoulder straps, nighttime reflective	FailsM SM MM HM FullyM	The LP for this web result offers many kids backpacks for sale. The company is well-known for manufacturing and selling high quality backpacks for kids of different ages. There is a lot of product information and many user reviews for each backpack, in addition to helpful filter options. This result would be very helpful for many or most users.
Query: [poison ivy]  User Intent: Find pictures of poison ivy plants, information about how to treat poison ivy, etc.	Outsmarting Poison Ivy and Other Poisonous Plants www.fda.gov//ucm049342.htm Sep 2, 2008 - Poison ivy and other poisonous plants are a hazard all year round. Here are tips for preventing and	FailsM SM MM HM FullyM	The LP for this web result is part of an authoritative government website and provides a lot of helpful information about poison ivy. This result would be very helpful for many or most users. A few or some users may wish to see additional results.
Query: [michael jordan]  User Intent: Find information, news, images, etc. about Michael Jordan.	Michael Jordan - Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Michael_Jordan Michael Jeffrey Jordan (born February 17, 1963), also known by his initials, MJ, is an American former professional	FailsM SM MM HM FullyM	The LP of this web result is a Wikipedia article about Michael Jordan. This result would be helpful for many or most users.
Query: [dance video]  User Intent: Find a dance video to watch.	Evolution of Dance - YouTube m.youtube.com/watc Apr 6, 2006	FailsM SM MM HM FullyM	Users are looking for good or entertaining dance videos and there are many options online.  There are many on-topic results for this query and this is one very popular video of a comedian demonstrating dance styles from previous decades.

Query and User Intent	Result	Rating	Highly Meets Explanation
Query: [trestle bridge]  User Intent: The user wants to understand what a trestle bridge is or learn more information about them (e.g., what it looks like, how they are built, types of materials, well-known examples, etc.).	View all images	FailsM SM MM HM FullyM	Seeing images of trestle bridges is very helpful in understanding this type of bridge. In this case, "a picture is worth a thousand words", meaning that a picture may be more helpful than a text description due to the unique design of the bridge.
Query: [purple coneflowers]  User Intent: Find images of or information about purple coneflowers.	Images  More images for purple coneflowers	FailsM SM MM HM FullyM	This block contains many helpful images, and the landing page shows even more images—it <b>Highly Meets</b> the user intent.
Query: [invasive species]  User Intent: Find more information about invasive species.	An invasive species is a plant or animal that is not native to a specific location (an Introduced species); and has a tendency to spread, which is believed to cause damage to the environment, human economy and/or human health.  Invasive species - Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Invasive_species	FailsM SM MM HM FullyM	The result block has a good summary of what invasive species are, but some users would probably want to see more information like examples, impact, etc.
Query: [verbena]  User Location: Austin, TX  User Intent: Find information about the spice or the restaurant in Austin.	Verbena 4.2 ★ ★ ★ ★ (175) Restaurant · Closed  Cverview Menu Reviews Photos Updates  CALL DIRECTIONS SAVE WEBSITE  RESERVE A TABLE ORDER ONLINE  Hip eatery serving oysters, charcuterie boards, steaks & fish, plus weekend brunch, wine & beer.  Dine-in · Takeout  612 W 6th St, Austin, TX 78701  Closed · Opens 5PM ✓ Confirmed by this business 3 weeks ago  Menu · verbenastx.com  (512) 991-3019	FailsM SM MM HM FullyM	For users in Austin, TX, the query [verbena] could have two different interpretations: a popular restaurant named Verbena or the plant verbena. Because the user is located in Austin, many users are probably looking for the restaurant. However, it is not completely clear because some users may want to find information about the plant. This result about the restaurant has satisfying information for users who want to visit it—the result <b>Highly Meets</b> the most likely user need.

Query and User Intent	Result	Rating	Highly Meets Explanation
Query: [how to get from seattle to xpppzyfii]  User Location: Seattle, Washington  User Intent: Get directions from Seattle to another place. Note that the location in the query ("xpppzyfii") is garbled and it is impossible to know what the user wanted. (The name was likely mistyped or mistranscribed from a voice query.)	No results for that place. Try entering it below to get suggestions.  From Seattle, WA  To Enter destination  GET DIRECTIONS	FailsM SM MM HM FullyM	Even though the user has to re-enter the destination, the result block recognizes that the user was asking for directions from Seattle. The user has to enter the destination manually because the name in the query ("xpppzyfii") is so garbled that there is no good guess as to what the user meant.  Therefore, this block is satisfying because it helps the user correct the request and then immediately get the desired directions.
Query: [kristen wiig]  User Intent: Find more information about the actress, comedian, writer, and producer.	Kristen Wiig   www.kristenwiig.org • Your fan site for Oscar www.kristenwiig.org Mobile-friendly - Watch the full interview on the official website to hear Kristen and director Shira Piven talk about their careers in acting, Photo Gallery - KristenWiig.org Video Archive	FailsM SM MM HM FullyM	This is a fan site dedicated to Kristen Wiig. The website has comprehensive info including over 50,000 pictures and 300 video clips, interviews, articles, and more. This website <b>Highly Meets</b> the need of many or most users.
Query: [greek alphabet]  User Intent: Find historical information about the Greek alphabet, the names of the letters in the Greek alphabet, images of the letters, etc.	Images  σβγδε ξηθικ ξηθικ προτ ψφτω ψω προτ ψφτω ψω ποτ ποτ ψφτω ποτ	FailsM SM MM HM FullyM	This is a broad query. Different users may be looking for different things.  This result shows multiple tables of images with the letters in the Greek alphabet. This result would be helpful for many users. Some users may wish to see additional results.
Query: [jennifer aniston]  User Intent: Find images, recent news, gossip, information, etc. about Jennifer Aniston.	In the news  What Oscar Snubs? Inside Jennifer Aniston and Angelina Jolie's Night at the Critics' Choice Awards: People.com People.com-5 hours ago  EXCLUSIVE: Jennifer Aniston double heartbreak as BOTH her 'lost love' and best friend, who starred in cult classic Daily Mail - 2 hours ago  Jennifer Aniston Reacts to Oscars 2015 Cake Snub, Says Reese Witherspoon and Julianne Moore Emailed Her Us Magazine - 4 hours ago  More news for jennifer aniston	FailsM SM MM HM FullyM	This is a broad query for an actress. Different users may be looking for different things.  This result shows recent news about Jennifer Aniston. The articles are timely (at the time this was written) and relatively interesting, and not just common everyday news about the actress. Many users would be satisfied with the result and some users may wish to see more results.

Query and User Intent	Result	Rating	Highly Meets Explanation
Query: [seattle, washington]  User Intent: Find information, news, maps, etc. related to Seattle, Washington.	Seattle City in Washington Weather: 52°F (11°C), Wind 0 mph (0 km/h), 88% Humidity  Points of interest  Pike Place Space Needle Experience Wo Music Project Zor Museum  Upcoming events and overview	FailsM SM MM HM FullyM	This is a broad query for a city. Different users may be looking for different things.  The result contains a wide variety of helpful information such as a map, weather information, several points of interest, and has an option to see more information containing nearby events and facts about the city. Moderately Meets+ to Highly Meets is an appropriate rating for this result.
Query: [emily blunt]  User Intent: Find biographical information (e.g., filmography) or current news/celebrity gossip about Emily Blunt.	Emily Blunt Actress  OVERVIEW  MOVIES  Emily Olivia Leah Blunt is an English actress. She made her professional debut in The Royal Family. Her screen debut was in the 2003 television film Boudica. Wikipedia  Spouse: John Krasinski (m. 2010)  Movies  LIVE ON HE  SNARTERCETING AND USPRITED  SNARTERCETING AND US	FailsM SM MM HM FullyM	This is a broad query for an actress. Different users may be looking for different things.  The result contains a variety of helpful information such as images, brief biography, recent movies, and an option to see more. Moderately Meets+ to Highly Meets is an appropriate rating for this result.
Query: [coldplay yellow lyrics]  User Intent: Find the lyrics to the song "Yellow", which was written by the band Coldplay.	Coldplay: Lyrics: Yellow Coldplay recordings > parachutes > yell  The official Coldplay website, featuring news, lyrics, tour dates, blogs, interviews, pictures and videos Yellow Look at the stars Look how they shine for you And everything you do Yeah, they were all yellow I came	FailsM SM MM HM FullyM	This page provides the requested lyrics on Coldplay's official website. Users can also navigate around the site to listen to the song, explore all albums the song appears on, listen to or view lyrics for other songs on the same album, or learn more about the artist overall.  Additionally, users can trust that the lyrics on the LP are 100% accurate due to the uniquely authoritative nature of the source, which makes this result very helpful for many or most users.

Query and User Intent	Result	Rating	Highly Meets Explanation
Query: [1969 moon landing]  User Intent: Find accurate and authoritative information about this historical event.	July 20, 1969: One Giant Leap For Mankind   NASA NASA (.gov) - apollo - apollo 11  At 10:56 p.m. EDT Neil Armstrong is ready to plant the first human foot on another world. With more than half a billion people watching on television, he climbs down the ladder and proclaims:  That's one small step for a	FailsM SM MM HM FullyM	The LP for this web result contains authoritative information about the Apollo 11 moon landing on the official website of NASA, which was the organization that oversaw this mission in 1969. The MC has a lot of helpful information and content, including a detailed summary, video footage, and images of the moon landing that users can view and explore. This result would be very helpful for many or most users.
Query: [stem education]  User Intent: Find information or recent news about education in STEM fields (i.e., Science, Technology, Engineering,	Educators, advocates see increased importance in US STEM Fox News > 2015/06/29 > educators-adv  • AMP - Jun 29, 2015 - When it comes to education reform in the United States, Science, Technology, Engineering, and	FailsM SM MM HM FullyM	This is an informational query on a fairly broad topic. Different users may be looking for different things, yet accuracy and credibility of the source are important.  This LP is a news article published on a reputable news website. The MC of the article
and Mathematics).			covers recent efforts to reform STEM education in the U.S., and it includes citations from expert sources. This result would be helpful for many or most users.
Query: [mentos and coke death]  User Intent: Find accurate information about a rumor that a mixture of Mentos and Coca-Cola can cause death, which was spread on the Internet in 2006.	Mentos and Coke Death: snopes.com Snopes > Fact Check > Horrors  Nov 9, 2006 - Mixture of Mentos and Coca-Cola kills child? Last week a little boy died in Brazil after eating MENTOS and drinking COCA COLA together.	FailsM SM MM HM FullyM	This LP is on a well-known fact-checking and debunking website. The page calls this story "False", then provides a credible explanation of how the authors came to that conclusion, including history of similar urban legends. This result would be very helpful for users seeking to verify the credibility of this rumor.
Query: [pj fleck]  User Location: Minneapolis, Minnesota  User Intent: Find information or recent news about P.J. Fleck, who had just become the new head football coach at the University of Minnesota a few days before this example was written.	Welcome aboard, 'life coach' P.J. Fleck - StarTribune.com Star Tribune > welcome-aboard-life-coac Jan 9, 2017 - P.J. Fleck's tenure as head football coach at the University of Minnesota will not be defined by an	FailsM SM MM HM FullyM	This LP is an opinion piece written by the Editorial Board of the largest newspaper in the U.S. state of Minnesota. The MC of the article expresses well-informed opinions about Fleck's upcoming tenure as head coach, and it would likely be of interest to many or most users when this query was issued.

Query and User Intent	Result	Rating	Highly Meets Explanation
Query: [batman lego movie review]  User Intent: Find reviews of the 2017 film <i>The LEGO Batman Movie</i> on credible news or entertainment sources.	'The Lego Batman Movie' is the best Batman movie since 'The Dark Knight' - LA Times - Los Angeles Times Los Angeles Times > In et-mn-l  • AMP - Feb 9, 2017 - Justin Chang reviews 'The Lego Batman Movie', starring Will Arnett.	FailsM SM MM HM FullyM	This LP is an in-depth review of the queried movie by a film critic at a reputable newspaper. This result would be very helpful for many or most users.

# 13.4 Moderately Meets (MM)

A rating of **Moderately Meets** is assigned to results that are helpful and satisfying for many users or very satisfying for some users.

**Moderately Meets** results have fewer valuable attributes than **Highly Meets** results. **Moderately Meets** results should still "fit" the query, but they might be less comprehensive, less up-to-date, come from a less authoritative source, etc.

**Moderately Meets** results are not low quality, out-of-date, or inaccurate. **Moderately Meets** results are generally average to good.

## 13.4.1 Examples of Moderately Meets (MM) Result Blocks

Query and User Intent	Result	Rating	Moderately Meets Explanation
Query: [shutterfly]  User Intent: Go to the Shutterfly website or find information about the company.	Shutterfly   CrunchBase www.crunchbase.com//shutterfly Shutterfly is a manufacturer and digital retailer, offering personalized stationery and other related products and services.	FailsM SM MM HM FullyM	The LP for this web result is a high-quality page on crunchbase.com—a member site on the TechCrunch network—with a profile of Shutterfly. The MC has a lot of helpful and accurate information about the company. This result would be helpful for many users or very helpful for some.
Query: [tom cruise]  User Intent: Find biographical information or current news/celebrity gossip about Tom Cruise.	Tom Cruise Pictures, Biography, Filmography, News Starpulse.com www.starpulse.com/Actors/Cruise_Tom/ Tom Cruise Pictures, Biography, Filmography, News, Box Office, Videos, Awards.	FailsM SM MM HM FullyM	The LP for this web result contains information about Tom Cruise, which would be helpful for many users or very helpful for some users. The photos and main links can easily be accessed on a phone.  Note that there are many, many pages about Tom Cruise and this result is not helpful enough for a rating of <b>Highly Meets</b> .
Query: [seattle, washington]  User Intent: Find information, news, maps, etc. related to Seattle, Washington.	Shoreline Woodinville Lake City University Redmond District Citico Island Bremerton (304) Bethel Bethel Bethel Bethel Burien Renton Map data ©2013 Goldgie Seattle, WA	FailsM SM MM HM FullyM	This is a broad query for a city. Different users may be looking for different things.  The result shows a map of Seattle, Washington and clicking on the map brings up a more detailed map. This result may be helpful for some users.
Query: [city of angels]  User Intent: Find information about the movie, song, musical, school, or some other entity by this name.	City of Angels Independent Studies School  4 reviews 1449 \$ San Pedro St, Los Angeles, CA 90015 (213) 745-1100  Call Directions Website	FailsM SM MM HM FullyM	This result reflects one of several possible user intents, as the query is also the name of a movie, song, musical, and more. However, since the user location is near the school, this result would be very helpful for some users—specifically, users who are looking for the school.

Query and User Intent	Result	Rating	Moderately Meets Explanation
Query: [nicaraguan money]  User Intent: Find out what Nicaraguan currency is called, what it looks like, the exchange rate, etc.	Nicaraguan córdoba Nicaragua, Currency	FailsM SM MM HM FullyM	This result displays the name of Nicaraguan currency. Some users may have their need met by learning the name of the currency, but many users may want images, know the exchange rate, etc. This result would be helpful for many users or very helpful for some users.
Query: [where is virginia in the us]  User Intent: Find where the state of Virginia is located in the U.S.	Virginia is bordered by Maryland and Washington, D.C. to the north and east; by the Atlantic Ocean to the east; by North Carolina and Tennessee to the south; by Kentucky to the west; and by West Virginia to the north and west.  Virginia - Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Virginia	FailsM SM MM HM FullyM	The description in this result block may be helpful for users who are already familiar with this area in the United States. Many or most users would probably want to see a map or a clearer description.
Query: [every breath you take lyrics]  User Intent: Find the lyrics to the song "Every Breath You Take," which was written by Sting.	STING LYRICS - Every Breath You Take - A-Z Lyrics www.azlyrics.com/lyrics/sting/everybreat Lyrics to "Every Breath You Take" song by STING: Every breath you take Every move you make Every bond you break	FailsM SM MM HM FullyM	The LP for this lyrics website page has the requested lyrics. There are many lyrics websites on the web and many pages are not 100% accurate. <b>Moderately Meets</b> is an appropriate rating for average pages with the requested lyrics.
Query: [kristen wiig]  User Intent: Find more information about the actress, comedian, writer, and producer.	Kristen Wiig! The Official Website of Kristen Wiig. kristenwiig.com Mobile-friendly - The official website of Kristen Wiig. Kristen Wiig is not on Twitter, Facebook, MySpace, or any other social networking	FailsM SM MM HM FullyM	This is Kristen Wiig's official website, but the only content is links to her talent and PR agencies, along with a note that says she is not on any social networking sites. While this information is helpful, many users would want to see more.

### 13.5 Slightly Meets (SM)

A rating of **Slightly Meets** is assigned to results that are helpful and satisfying for some or few users. **Slightly Meets** results may serve a minor interpretation, be low quality, have stale or outdated information, have some minor inaccuracies, be too specific, too broad, too niche for the general user population considering the query, etc. to receive a higher rating.

**Important note:** Many users decide which result to click or tap on based on the title of the web result on the search results page. (Note that these titles usually come from webpages.) A result with a very misleading or exaggerated title should be rated **Slightly Meets** or lower, due to the poor user experience that occurs when the landing page does not match the expectation of the user when clicking or tapping on the result.

### 13.5.1 Examples of Slightly Meets (SM) Result Blocks

Query and User Intent	Result	Rating	Slightly Meets Explanation
Query: [britney spears]  User Intent: Find information about Britney Spears (e.g., current news, pictures).	Britney Spears Files for Divorce   TMZ.com www.tmz.com//britney-spears-files-for Nov 7, 2006 - Britney Spears has filed a petition for divorce from Kevin Federline. TMZ obtained the legal papers,	FailsM SM MM HM FullyM	The LP of this web result has a 2006 article about Britney Spears filing for divorce. This is very old, stale news, making the result helpful for few users.
Query: [honda odyssey]  User Intent: We will assume that users are interested in the current Honda Odyssey model, unless specified otherwise.	2010 Honda Odyssey - Kelley Blue Book www.kbb.com/honda/odyssey/2010-hon Review by KBB.com Editors - Jan 6, 2010 Learn more about the 2010 Honda Odyssey with Kelley Blue Book expert reviews. Discover information including	FailsM SM MM HM FullyM	Although the LP has comprehensive information from a reputable source, the information is about the 2010 Honda Odyssey. This information would be considered stale for the query today, making this result helpful for some or few users.
Query: [hot dog]  User Intent: Find information about hot dogs, such as recipes or nutrition information.	Hot Dog The Movie (1984) - IMDb www.imdb.com/title/tt0087425/ Directed by Peter Markle. With David Naughton, Patrick Houser, Tracy Smith, John Patrick Reger. Naive corn-pone	FailsM SM MM HM FullyM	The LP of this web result is about the movie "Hot Dog," which came out in 1984 and is a minor interpretation of this query. Because this is an unlikely interpretation, this web result would be helpful for few users, even though the landing page has good content from a reputable source.
Query: [motorcycles]  User Location: Potsdam, New York  User Intent: Find information about motorcycles.	Sovie's Cycle Shop  Sovie's Cycle Shop  No reviews Motorcycle Parts Store - Ames Rd  State Farm: Drew McFadden IV No reviews Insurance Agency - Market St  CALL	FailsM SM MM HM FullyM	This result provides contact information for one of the two motorcycle shops in Potsdam, New York. It is possible this would be helpful for some users, but many users would be looking for information. Additionally, there is distracting information (a listing for an insurance agent).

Query and User Intent	Result	Rating	Slightly Meets Explanation
Query: [abe lincoln's birthday]  User Intent: Find this specific piece of information.	List of Presidents of the United States by date of birth - Wikipedia en.m.wikipedia.org//List_of_Presidents Mobile-friendly - The following is a list of U.S. Presidents, organized by date of birth, plus additional lists of birth related statistics. United States Presidents by	FailsM SM MM HM FullyM	This is a Wikipedia page that has birthdays for all U.S. presidents, including Abraham Lincoln. However, his birthday is not prominently displayed and it is not obvious that the answer is there—users have to do some work and search around on the page to find the answer, making SM to SM+ an appropriate rating.
Query: [lack of sex and problems with my marriage]  User Intent: Find help for marital issues.	5 Tips to Fix a Sexless Marriage Or Relationship - Ezine Articles ezinearticles.com > > Marriage Mobile-friendly - Feb 25, 2008 - Look to the past - Sexless marriages don't just spring up out of thin air. They are just symptoms of other	FailsM SM MM HM FullyM	The quality of writing in this article, which was created by a person without expertise in marriage or relationship counseling, is poor. Even though the article is about the query, the page is low quality and untrustworthy. It would be helpful for few users.
Query: [nail spa]  User Location: San Jose, California  User Intent: Find a nail spa in or near San Jose.	Burke Williams  4.2 ****** 16 reviews  Day Spa  CALL DIRECTIONS WEBSITE  355 Santana Row #2010, San Jose, CA 95128  C Open today 8:00 am – 10:00 pm   More about Burke Williams	FailsM SM MM HM FullyM	Burke Williams is a day spa that offers many treatments like massage therapy, skin care, etc. While it does have nail care options, it is not a dedicated nail spa.
Query: [what type of sharks live in rivers]  User Intent: Find information about what types of sharks live in rivers.	Although there are a handful of species that live in freshwater, we tend to think of sharks as being ocean dwellers. But there is also a very unique shark that can live in both ocean and fresh water estuaries and lakes: the Bull Shark.  Shark Savers:: How Bull Sharks Survive in Fresh Water www.sharksavers.org//how-bull-sharks	FailsM SM MM HM FullyM	This result block does not contain enough information to be fully satisfying and mentions only one type of shark. Most users would need to do further research.
Query: [210 area code]  User Intent: Find what area uses the 210 area code for phone numbers.	Most of Bexar County stayed in 210, while the San Antonio suburbs and the Texas Hill Country were split off as area code 830. The southern portion became area code 956. The 1997 split made San Antonio one of the few cities that are split between two area codes.  Area code 210 - Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Area_code_210	FailsM SM MM HM FullyM	The answer in this result block is really confusing. Even if users can figure it out, they would likely still have to click on the link, or go to another website, to confirm the information.  While there is a map, you would have to expand or click on it to see the details, so it is not that helpful.

Query and User Intent	Result	Rating	Slightly Meets Explanation
Query: [ibm]  User Intent: Go to the IBM website or find information about the company.	→ More images for ibm	FailsM SM MM HM FullyM	This block contains images of the logo for IBM, but these images are not particularly helpful for this query.
Query: [where is nibiru]  User Intent: Find the location of "Nibiru", which was a fictional planet in the movie Star Trek Into Darkness, as well as a pseudoscientific outer planet in the solar system that doesn't actually exist.	Planet Nibiru has appeared in the sky and DOOMSDAY is on the way https://www.thesun.co.uk//planet-nibiru-has-appeared Aug 23, 2016 - Now a YouTube channel called Nibiru/Planet X has uploaded footage shot in August which allegedly shows a blood red moon alongside a	FailsM SM MM HM FullyM	The title of this article makes it appear as though the article describes an impending catastrophe. Yet, the MC states in its third paragraph that Nibiru "doesn't actually exist" and calls believers in it "conspiracy theorists". The title contradicts the content of the article, and as a result could mislead users who don't read the full article.  Note: Many users decide which result to click or tap on based on the title of the web result on the search results page. Results with very misleading or exaggerated titles should be rated Slightly Meets or lower, due to the poor user experience that occurs when the landing page does not match the expectation of the user when clicking or tapping on the result.

### 13.6 Fails to Meet (FailsM)

A rating of **Fails to Meet** should be assigned to results that are helpful and satisfying for no or very few users. **Fails to Meet** results are unrelated to the query, factually incorrect (please check for factual accuracy of answers), and/or all or almost all users would want to see additional results. These results completely fail to meet the user intent, such as a lack of attention to an aspect of the query (or user location) that is important for satisfying user intent. **Fails to Meet** may also be used for results that have very stale or outdated information.

Search results should never surprise people with unpleasant, upsetting, offensive, or disturbing content. For this reason, all of the following types of content should be rated **Fails to Meet** if it is clear that the user is not looking for such content:

- Harmful to Self or Other Individuals (Section 4.2)
- Harmful to Specified Groups (Section 4.3)
- Harmfully Misleading Information (<u>Section 4.4</u>)
- Untrustworthy (Section 4.5)
- Spammy (<u>Section 4.6</u>)
- Porn (<u>Section 15.1</u>)

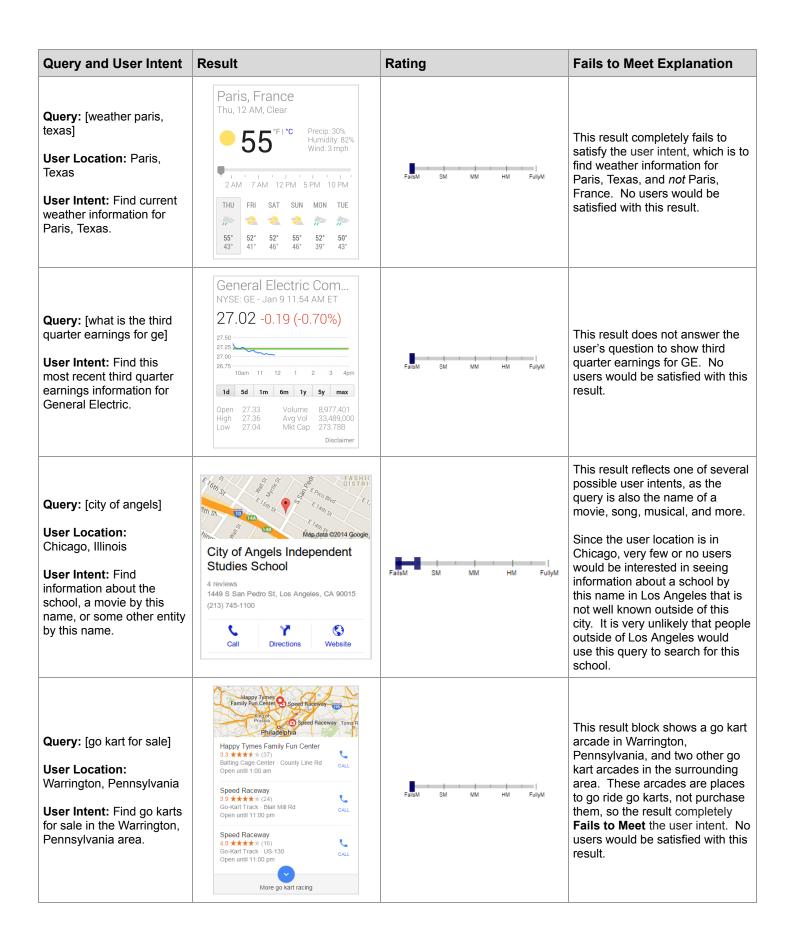
# 13.6.1 Examples of Fails to Meet (FailsM) Result Blocks

Query and User Intent	Result	Rating	Fails to Meet Explanation
Query: [dogs]  User Location: Pittsfield Charter Township, Michigan  User Intent: Find information (e.g., pictures, breeds, training details, etc.) related to dogs.  Note: For this query, it is very unlikely users want to go anywhere in person.	Arbor Dog Day Care Camp Bow Wow  Sunset Animal Care LLC  Arbor Dog Day Care 4.5 ***** (7) Pet Sitter : Main St Open until 7:00 pm  Camp Bow Wow 4.5 ***** (38) Dog Day Care Center : State Cir Open until 7:00 pm  Sunset Animal Care LLC No reviews Pet Care Open until 7:00 pm  More dog	FailsM SM MM HM FullyM	This is a broad informational query for an animal. Different users may be looking for different things.  This result block shows visit-in-person information for three different dog care providers near the user location. However, the query is very broad and it is unlikely users want to go anywhere in person.
Query: [mike]  User Location: Eustis, Florida  User Intent: Find information about something related to Mike.  Note: For this query, it is unlikely users want to go anywhere in person.	Eustis © Sanford Mike Bender Sanford Old Academy No reviews Private Golf Course - Shadowmoss Cir Closed now  Mike Holt Enterprises, Inc 2 reviews Publisher - Parkway Blvd Closed now	FailsM SM MM HM FullyM	This is a broad query and it is unclear exactly what the user is looking for.  This result block shows visit-in-person information for two businesses that contain the name Mike. However, the query is very broad and it is very unlikely these businesses are what users seek given the query.

Query and User Intent	Result	Rating	Fails to Meet Explanation
Query: [tampa rays] User Location: Tampa, Florida User Intent: Find information (e.g., scores, roster, recent news) about a professional baseball team in Florida called Tampa Bay Rays.  Note: For this query, it is unlikely users want to go anywhere in person.	Bob's Cards: Tampa Bay Rays 4.2 **** 20 reviews Sports Card Store  CALL DIRECTIONS WEBSITE  200 Madison St, Tampa FL 33602  Closed now Hours  More about Bob's Cards	FailsM SM MM HM FullyM	This result block shows information to visit a sports card store in person, which happens to have the baseball team in the name. However, remember that for this query, it is unlikely users want to go anywhere in person.  Note: This business was fabricated for the purposes of this example, and does not exist in real life.
Query: [wral]  User Location: Wake County, North Carolina  User Intent: Go to the WRAL website or find other information about the news station in North Carolina.  Note: Users generally would not go to a news station in person.	WRAL 4.2 ** * * * (6) Television Station · Western Blvd  Auburn Tower 2 reviews Television Tower · Tv Tower Rd	FailsM SM MM HM FullyM	WRAL is a television news station in North Carolina. Users want to go to the website or find information about the station.  In this example, clicking on the blocks show information about the businesses' corporate headquarters. Note that television stations (like radio stations, newspapers, etc.) usually have special contact information for the public that is different than their corporate headquarter information. Also, with the query just being the name of the station, it is very unlikely that users want this kind of information.
Query: [texas farm fertilizer]  User Location: Dallas, Texas  User Intent: Find information about, or where to buy, fertilizer from the company Texas Farm.	Texas Farm Products Co Farm  CALL DIRECTIONS WEBSITE  915 S Fredonia St, Nacogdoches, TX 75964  Claim this business  More about Texas Farm Products Co	FailsM SM MM HM FullyM	This result block shows the Texas Farm corporate office, which is not helpful given the user intent—users could not physically go to the company's corporate office to buy or learn about the product. Fertilizer is the kind of product that you would have to buy at a store.

Query and User Intent	Result	Rating	Fails to Meet Explanation
Query: [united 656]  User Intent: Find information about flight 656 operated by United Airlines (e.g., whether the flight is on time, what gate it is departing from).	Second Unitarian Church  Second Unitarian Church  1 review Church · W Barry Ave  CALL  O'Hare International Airport 3.6 *** (1,007)  Airport · W O'Hare Ave Massive airport serving the Midwest  Catalyst Ranch 4.6 **** (11)  Event Venue · W Randolph St	FailsM SM MM HM FullyM	This result shows information for a church, an event venue, and the closest airport. However, users clearly want to know details about a specific flight, and there is absolutely no information in the block about the flight. This result <b>Fails to Meet</b> the user intent.
Query: [german cars]  User Intent: Find information about German cars or go to the official homepage of a German automaker.	Subaru of America: Subaru Cars, Sedans, SUVs, Crossovers, Wagons https://www.subaru.com/ Visit Subaru of America for reviews, pricing and photos of Subaru Cars, Sedans, Wagons, Crossovers & SUVs.		This LP is the homepage of Subaru, a Japanese car company, not a German car company.  The page completely <b>Fails to Meet</b> the user intent and would be helpful for no or very few users.
Query: [company to get rid of the possum in my attic]  User Location: Naperville, Illinois  User Intent: Find a company to trap and remove a possum from the attic.	Complete Pest Control - Adelaide South Australia   Adelaide Pest completepest.com.au/ Our family owned business has been delivering professional pest control services to metropolitan Adelaide since 1988. Termite Treatments - Pest Specials	FailsM SM MM HM FullyM	This LP is the homepage of a pest control company in Australia. U.S. users would need a U.S. company to take care of this problem. There is a mismatch between the page and the locale that makes this result helpful for no users—it completely <b>Fails to Meet</b> the user intent.
Query: [starting jets quarterback 2001]  User Intent: Find the name of the starting quarterback for the New York Jets football team in 2001.	https://www.espn.com > name > nyj  New York Jets Roster   ESPN  Visit ESPN to view the New York Jets team roster for the 2014 season.	FallsM SM MM HM FullyM	Although this is a trustworthy website for information about NFL football, this LP does not contain the information requested by the user. This result completely <b>Fails to Meet</b> the user intent.
Query: [doctor salary]  User Location: San Francisco, California  User Intent: Find information about doctor salaries.	state residents an residents. At priva and fees average residents and \$50 resident students.  How Do I Pay for Pay for Med School https://www.aamc.org//	dical schools mately \$31,783 for id \$55,294 for non- ate schools, tuition d \$52,093 for 1,476 for non-  Medical School? Aspiring	The answer in this block is about the cost of education, not salary, which is misleading and doesn't answer the user's query.

Query and User Intent	Result	Rating	Fails to Meet Explanation
Query: [stony child development center west point phone number]  User Location: West Point, New York  User Intent: Find the telephone number for the Stony Child Development Center in West Point, New York.	(845) 446-5504 West Point Club, Phone	The answer in this block provides the phone number for the West Point Club, not the Stony Child Development Center located in West Point, New York. This result <b>Fails to Meet</b> the user intent.	
Query: [who invented stairs]  User Intent: Find out about the origin of stairs.	"Stairs have become fixture in contemporary to forget that until 1948, by Swis Bösendörfer." Sephistory of the stairs   contemporary www.cghm.org > wow > stairs   contemporary www.cghm.org > wow > stairs   contemporary wow > s	The answer provided in this result block is factually inaccurate. Stairs have been a common architectural feature of buildings, pathways, outdoor structures, etc. since long before 1948, and they were not invented by a person named Werner Bösendörfer.	
Query: [batman]  User Location: Anaheim, California  User Intent: Find information about the fictional superhero that appears in American comic books, movies, and television shows.	Batman Balpinar Bire Erkelül Kuyubay Map data 62015 Basaneft, Google Batman/Batman Province Turkey		It is extremely unlikely (potentially a no-chance interpretation) that this query is looking for information on a city in Turkey called Batman, given that the user is located in the United States. No or almost no users would be satisfied with this result.
Query: [obama] User Location: Austin, Texas User Intent: Find information about Barack Obama.	Obama City in Japan  Weather: 50°F (10°C), Wind NW at 4 mph (6 km/h), 97% Humidity Hotels: 3-star averaging \$110. View hotels  More about Obama		It is extremely unlikely (potentially a no-chance interpretation) that this query is looking for information on a city in Japan called Obama, given that the user is located in the United States. No or almost no users would be satisfied with this result.



Query and User Intent	Result	Rating	Fails to Meet Explanation
Query: [ralphs]  User Location: San Clemente, California  User Intent: There are two possible user intents: most users probably want to visit a nearby Ralphs location or go to the website.	A Ralphs The Hub - Hillcrest M 1030 University Ave San Diego Open until 2:00 am  B Ralphs Friars Mission Center 5680 Mission Center Rd San Diego Open until 1:00 am  C Polo Ralph Lauren 7007 Friars Rd San Diego Open until 9:00 pm  CALL DIRECTIONS  DIRECTIONS  CALL DIRECTIONS	FailsM SM MM HM FullyM	Ralphs is a nationwide supermarket chain. These locations are all in San Diego, California, which is a major city south of the user location (about 60 miles away). These results are too far to be helpful.
Query: [amazon]  User Location: Austin, Texas  User Intent: Go to the Amazon website.	Amazon Campus Republican St. Republi	FailsM SM MM HM FullyM	Users issuing this query want to go to the Amazon website.  Showing information about how to visit or call the corporate office for an online company would not be helpful. Very, very few people ever go to an Amazon corporate office, which is not open to the public. If someone needed to go to the office for an interview or business visit, they would need to get that information from someone at the company or would use a more specific query.
Query: [what is the closest large city]  User Location: Myrtle Beach, South Carolina  User Intent: Find the closest large city to Myrtle Beach, South Carolina.	News for large city  County expanding use of large recycling bins, which city continues to study The State - 12 hours ago  Murray, Sawant sworn in before large crowd The Seattle Times (blog) - 8 hours ago	FailsM SM MM HM FullyM	A news result is inappropriate and completely unhelpful for this query. No users would be satisfied with this result.
Query: [australian open mens singles result 2008]  User Intent: Find a page that displays the 2008 men's singles result for this tennis tournament.	2004 Australian Open – Men's Singles - Wikipedia, the free en.m.wikipedia.org//2004_Australian Mobile-friendly - Roger Federer defeated Marat Safin 7–6(7–3), 6–4, 6–2 in the final to win the Men's Singles title at the 2004 Australian Seeds - Draw - References - External links	FailsM SM MM HM FullyM	This LP is about the 2004 Australian Open, not the 2008 Australian Open. It does not pay attention to an aspect of the query that is important for satisfying user intent (i.e., 2008). The result <b>Fails to Meet</b> the user intent.
Query: [tooth loss five years old]  User Intent: Find information about tooth loss in a five-year-old child.	Gallery of Pennsylvania Fishes - Chapter 16, Pikes and Mudminnows fishandboat.com/pafish//chap16pikes.ht Pikes and Mudminnows. Family Esocidae. Family overview: Pike are long, slender, "duck-billed" predator fish, popular	FailsM SM MM HM FullyM	This LP has information about tooth loss in pike fish and has the words "five years old" on the page. This result <b>Fails to Meet</b> the user intent because it has keyword matches only and would be helpful for no users.

Query and User Intent	Result	Rating	Fails to Meet Explanation		
Query: [what is wedding in spanish]  User Intent: Find how to say the word "wedding" in Spanish.	mañana  Translate "wedding" to Spanish	FailsM SM MM HM FullyM	The translation in the result block is completely wrong and inaccurate.  Mañana means "tomorrow," not "wedding."		
Query: [american express]  User Intent: Go to the American Express card website or get information about the company and its products and services.	The Lipstick Chronicles: November 2007 thelipstickchronicles.typepad.com//11/ Nov 30, 2007 of infected machines to mount a brute force attack against, say, American Express or Wells Fargo.	FailsM SM MM HM FullyM	The LP is a humorous blog post about a wife helping her husband to buy a suit. The page mentions "American Express," but is insufficiently related to the query to be helpful for users, so it <b>Fails to Meet</b> the user intent.		
Query: [how to quit smoking]  User Intent: Find information on ways to quit smoking.	How to type a cigarette - ws.gy xe4c.ws.gy/fo The eGo is one of the most popular models in the e-cigarette industry. It's affordable, provides great battery life, has an .	fo one of the most popular models in the ndustry. It's affordable, provides great			
Query: [starting order for today's nascar race]  User Intent: Find information about the starting order of the Nascar race that day.	NASCAR Schedule Sprint Cup Series-Nationwide Series-Campil # Date Race - Feb 16 The Sprint Unlimited - Feb 21 Budweiser Duel 1 - Feb 21 Budweiser Duel 2 1 Feb 24 Daytona 500 2 Mar 3 Subway Fresh Fit 500 + Show more	This result shows a NASCAR schedule, but does not have the starting order. The content is not what the user is looking for and <b>Fails to Meet</b> the user intent.			
Query: [air canada phone number]  User Intent: Find the customer service phone number for the airline Air Canada.	1 (888) 247-2200 Air Canada, Customer service  More about Air Canada  Failsh SM MM HM FullyM		Remember that you should check for the factual accuracy of answers. For this result, go to the company's page at <a href="https://www.aircanada.com/en/customercare/int/">www.aircanada.com/en/customercare/int/</a> and select USA to check the number shown here. According to the airline's website, the correct phone number is 1-888-247-2262. Because this answer is incorrect, it should be rated Fails to Meet.		
Query: [obama news]  User Intent: Find recent news about Barack Obama, the 44th president of the United States.	Obama Announces Plans For A Third Term Presidential Run - News newsexaminer.net//obama-announ ces-plans-for-a-third-term Washington, DC — President Barack Obama shocked the country this morning with news that he is running for a third term		The MC of this page is an example of a demonstrably inaccurate news report, including a fictitious quotation by Barack Obama. Because the content is presented as a factual news article, it is inaccurate with an intent to deceive users and should be rated Fails to Meet.		

Query and User Intent	Result	Rating	Fails to Meet Explanation
Query: [does smoking cause cancer]  User Intent: Find out whether smoking causes cancer.	Smoking does NOT cause lung cancer, in fact it just might protect https://www.sott.net/Smoking-does-NOT-cause-lung-cancer-in-fact Apr 10, 1999 - The following excerpt is taken from Lauren A. Colby's book In Defense of Smokers	FailsM SM MM HM FullyM	Despite strong medical consensus linking tobacco to lung cancer—which can be found at authoritative sources by searching [lung cancer and smoking]—this LP claims there is no connection between smoking and cancer by selectively interpreting some experiments done on animals.  Additionally, this is a YMYL query on a medical topic, so accurate and trustworthy information is highly important. This page directly contradicts well-established medical consensus and may potentially cause harm to users, so it should be rated Fails to Meet.
Query: [miley cyrus]  User Intent: Find information about the American singer/actress Miley Cyrus, such as biographical info, discography/filmography, current news, etc.	TRAGIC: MILEY CYRUS DEAD AT THE AGE OF 22 - Now8News Now8News > miley-cyrus-dead-age-22-2  MILEY CYRUS DEAD AT THE AGE OF 22, Hollywood, CA - Miley Cyrus' lifeless body was found by her entourage in a bathtub a ther Hollywood home on Wednesday, authorities revealed Meanwhile, paparazzi are swarming her Hollywood home awaiting Cyrus' body to emerge.	FailsM SM MM HM FullyM	Miley Cyrus was alive at the time this example was written. This LP is an article written by an unknown author that was designed to look like a news story and falsely states that she died. Furthermore, the page is found on a low quality website, and the article has not been updated, clarified, or removed even days after having been proven false. This page is factually inaccurate and deceptive to users, so it should be rated <b>Fails to Meet</b> .  Remember: Just because a website has the look and feel of a traditional news site does NOT mean that you should consider the reporting to be factually accurate without further research. Watch out for sites that present themselves as news, but were actually created with the intent to mislead or misinform users.

Query and User Intent	Result	Rating	Fails to Meet Explanation
Query: [holocaust history]  User Intent: Find historical information about the Holocaust.	Top 10 reasons why the holocaust didn't happen Stormfront https://www.stormfront.org > General > History & Revisionism Dec 19, 2008 - 10 posts - 8 authors History & Revisionism Reexamining history, particularly the court historians' The Holocaust Lie more than anything else keeps	FallsM SM MM HM FullyM	This query is seeking historical information. The LP of this web result is on a well-known white supremacist hate site (read more here or here). The discussion on this page is inaccurate and misleading, since the Holocaust is an extremely well-documented historical event.  Remember: Pages that directly contradict well-established historical facts should be rated Fails to Meet, unless the query clearly indicates the user is seeking an alternative viewpoint.
Query: [who is hitler's daughter]  User Intent: Find the name of or information about Adolf Hitler's daughter, if Hitler in fact had a daughter.	The Vatic Project: Angela Merkel is Hitlers Daughter and a Rothschild vaticproject.blogspot.com//angela-merkel-is-hitlers-daughter-and.html Dec 22, 2013 - Then on November 22nd, 2005, Hitler's biological daughter, Angela Merkel was elected Chancellor of Germany. The day,	FailsM SM MM HM FullyM	This LP is a blog post presenting a factually unsupported conspiracy theory that Angela Merkel is the daughter of Adolph Hitler. Because the MC is inaccurate and misleading, it completely <b>Fails to Meet</b> the user intent, even though the topic of the page matches the query.  Note: A more helpful result for this query might confirm that Adolf Hitler had no children, or provide information on the novel <i>Hitler's Daughter</i> by Jackie French.
Query: [islam]  User Intent: Find information about the religion of Islam.	Proof that Islam is Evil, Violent, and Intolerant- Straight From the Koran janmorganmedia.com//proof-islam -evil-violent-intolerant-straight-koran/ May 13, 2014 - Every time I write and article that sheds Islam in a negative light, my life gets threatened	FailsM SM MM HM FullyM	This is a broad query seeking information about Islam. The LP was created for the purpose of stating the author's opinion that Islam is not a religion. The author lacks expertise in the topic; the writing has frequent misspellings, typos, and grammar errors; and the page seems to exist to promote intolerance or hate.

# 14.0 The Relationship between Page Quality and Needs Met

The Needs Met rating is based on *both* the query and the result. You must carefully think about the query and user intent when assigning a Needs Met rating.



The Page Quality rating slider does *not* depend on the query. Do not think about the query when assigning a Page Quality rating to the LP.

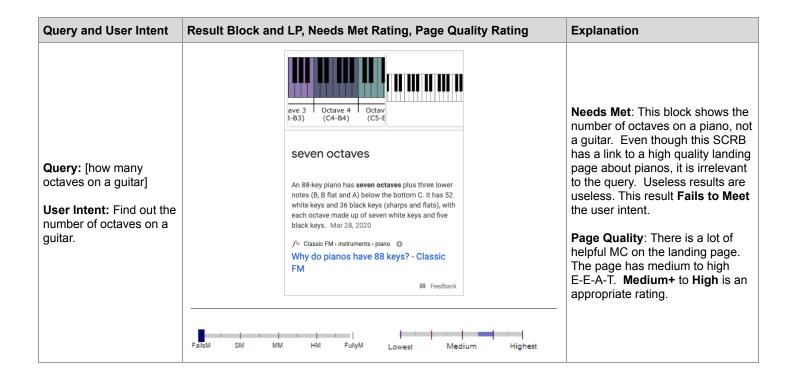


Some results don't have a Page Quality slider. If a result block has no Page Quality rating slider, you do not have to give a Page Quality rating. If there is a Page Quality slider, please assign a Page Quality rating based on the landing page.

Here is some guidance about assigning Needs Met and Page Quality ratings:

- Useless results should always be rated **FailsM**, even if the landing page has a high Page Quality rating. Useless is useless.
- On-topic, helpful, but low Page Quality results should get lower Needs Met ratings than on-topic, helpful, and high Page Quality results. The Needs Met scale encompasses all aspects of "helpfulness," and many users find low Page Quality results less helpful than high Page Quality results. Your ratings should reflect this.
- The HM rating should be given to helpful, high Page Quality pages that are a good fit for the query. The HM rating may also be used for results that are very helpful, medium quality, and have other very desirable characteristics, such as very recent information.
- The **HM** rating may not be appropriate if a page has low Page Quality or has any other undesirable characteristics, such as outdated or inaccurate information, or if it is a poor fit for the query. We have very high standards for the **HM** rating.
- **SM** is often an appropriate rating for low quality but on-topic pages. However, a page can have such low Page Quality that it is useless for nearly all queries. Gibberish pages are a good example of pages with low Page Quality that should be rated **FailsM**. An exception to this is queries with clear website intent, where the target website should be rated **FullyM** even if the page has low Page Quality.
- Remember that if a page lacks a beneficial purpose, it should always be rated Lowest Page Quality regardless
  of the page's Needs Met rating or how well-designed the page may be. Please review <u>Section 4.1</u> for a summary
  of other types of Lowest Page Quality pages.

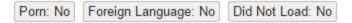
Query and User Intent	Result Block and LP, Needs Met Rating, Page Quality Rating	Explanation	
Query: [how do electric cars work]  User Intent: Find information about how electric cars work.	Electric Car Motors - How Do Electric Car Motors Ezine Articles ezinearticles.com/?MotorsMotors Mobile-friendly - Oct 10, 2008 - This engine which runs on gasoline principally has dominated the world of automobiles until recently.	Needs Met: This page would be helpful for few users.  Page Quality: Read this content out loud. The article on the LP is shallow and unintentionally humorous. The MC has four paragraphs of text, but it basically says that electric cars use electricity and have to be charged. The page also lacks E-E-A-T. Low is an appropriate	
	Mobility scooter - Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mobility_scooter Mobile-friendly configured like a motorscooter. It is often referred to as a power-operated vehicle/scooter or electric scooter as well.	rating.  Needs Met: The query asks how electric cars work, but the article on the LP is about mobility scooters.  Page Quality: There is a lot of helpful MC on the landing page on Wikipedia.org. The page has	
	FallsM SM MM HM FullyM Lowest Medium Highest	high E-E-A-T. <b>Medium+</b> to <b>High</b> is an appropriate rating.	
Query: [symptoms of dehydration]  User Intent: Find information about the symptoms of dehydration.	Symptoms of Dehydration www.symptomsofdehydration.com/ What are the symptoms of dehydration? Learn about the signs you can expect when dehydration begins and also as it	Needs Met: Even though the article is topical, the information not reliable and potentially misleading or dangerous.  Page Quality: This is a YMYL	
	FailsM SM MM HM FullyM Lowest Medium Highest	topic. This page has no evidence of medical expertise/authority and is not trustworthy.	
	Dehydration Symptoms - Diseases and Conditions - Mayo Clinic www.mayoclinic.org//dehydration//sy Mobile-friendly - Severe dehydration, a medical emergency, can cause: • Extreme thirst • Extreme fussiness or sleepiness in infants and children; irritability and confusion in adults • Very dry mouth, skin and mucous membranes • Little or no urination — any urine that is produced will be darker than normal • Sunken eyes 8 more items	Needs Met: This result would be very helpful for most users.  Page Quality: This is a YMYL topic. This page is on a highly authoritative medical website and has a lot of reliable and accurate MC. This page is very trustworthy.	
	FailsM SM MM HM FullyM Lowest Medium Highest		



# 15.0 Rating Porn, Foreign Language, and Did Not Load Results

You will be asked to assign **Porn**, **Foreign Language**, and **Did Not Load** flags to result blocks when appropriate. Some rating tasks may also ask you to identify **Upsetting-Offensive** and/or **Not-for-Everyone** results.

All flags should be assigned based on the result alone and do not depend on the query. Here is a screenshot of the flags:



Click on the flag name to select it. The flag will turn red and change the "No" to "Yes." For example, here is a result block that shows when the **Foreign Language** flag should be used.

Query and User Intent	Result Block and LP, Needs Met Rating, Flag	Explanation
Query: [baidu.com]  Locale: English (US)	百度 www.baidu.com/ 移动版适用 - 主要提供网页、音乐、图片、新闻搜索,同时有帖吧和WAP搜索功能。	This LP is the homepage of the Baidu website. The result is the target page of the query, but is in a foreign language (Chinese).
User Intent: Go to the Baidu website.	Porn: No Foreign Language: Yes Did Not Load: No	This result merits a FullyM rating and the Foreign Language flag.

# 15.1 Porn Flag

Please assign the **Porn** flag to all porn pages, whether the query is porn-seeking or not. The **Porn** flag does not depend on the query or user intent.

This flag should be used if the content inside the result block, or the content on the LP, is pornographic, including porn images, links, text, pop-ups, and/or prominent porn ads. An image may be considered porn in one culture or country, but not another. Please use your judgment and knowledge of your locale.

Remember: The Porn flag is used to indicate that the result is porn. It doesn't matter whether the query "asks for porn".

### 15.2 Needs Met Rating for Porn Results

#### 15.2.1 Needs Met Rating for Clear Non-Porn Intent Queries

If the user intent is clearly not porn-seeking, a landing page that has porn for its MC should be rated Fails to Meet.

- When the user intent is clearly not porn, a porn result should be considered unhelpful or useless.
- Uninvited porn is a very bad experience for many users.

The following queries should be considered non-porn intent queries: [girls], [wives], [mature women], [gay people], [people kissing], [boy speedos], [moms and sons], [pictures of girls], [pictures of women], [mothers and daughters], [cheerleaders], etc.

Remember to assign the Porn flag for all porn pages. Use your judgment and represent users in your locale.

Query	User Intent	Landing Page	Rating	Porn Flag?
[toys], English (US)	Find toys to buy.	Example Warning – this page is porn.	FailsM	Yes
[how tall is a camel], English (US)	Find the answer to this question about camels.	Example Warning – this page is porn.	FailsM	Yes
[car pictures], English (US)	Find pictures of cars.	Example Warning – this page is porn.	FailsM	Yes

## 15.2.2 Needs Met Rating for Possible Porn Intent Queries

Some queries have both non-porn and porn interpretations. For example, the following English (US) queries have both a non-porn and an erotic or porn interpretation: [breast], [sex]. We will call these queries "possible porn intent" queries.

For "possible porn intent" queries, please rate as if the non-porn interpretation were dominant, even though some or many users may be looking for porn. For example, please rate the English (US) query [breast] assuming a dominant health or anatomy information intent.

Query	User Intent	Landing Page	Rating	Porn flag?
[breasts], English (US)	Find anatomy or health information about breasts.	<u>Example</u>	нм	No
[breasts], English (US)	Find anatomy or health information about breasts.	Example Warning – this page is porn.	FailsM	Yes

## 15.2.3 Needs Met Rating for Clear Porn Intent Queries

For very clear porn intent queries, assign a rating to the porn landing page based on how helpful it is for the user. Even though there is porn intent, the page should still be assigned a **Porn** flag.

Do not simply rate all porn pages for porn queries as **MM** or **HM**. Even though the query is porn and the result is porn, the page must fit the query and be helpful to get a high Needs Met rating.

Pages that provide a poor user experience, such as pages that try to download malicious software, should also receive low ratings, even if they have some images appropriate for the query.

Query	User Intent	Landing Page	Rating	Porn Flag?
[freeones], English (US)	Navigate to the Freeones homepage.	Example: http://www.freeones.com Warning – this page is porn.	FullyM	Yes
[freeones], English (US)	Navigate to the Freeones homepage.	Example: http://www.baberoad.com Warning – this page is porn.	FailsM	Yes
[anime sex pictures], English (US)	Find anime sex pictures.	Example Warning – this page is porn.	MM to HM	Yes
[cheerleader porn], English (US)	Find porn pictures of cheerleaders.	Example Warning – this page is porn.	MM to HM	Yes

### 15.3 Reporting Illegal Images

#### Child Pornography

**Note:** When working on rating projects in any task location or locale, you must follow United States federal law, which considers child pornography to be illegal.

#### **Definition of Child Pornography**

An image is child pornography if it is a visual depiction of someone who appears to be a minor (i.e., under 18 years old) engaged in sexually explicit conduct (e.g., vaginal or anal intercourse, oral sex, bestiality or masturbation as well as lascivious depictions of the genitals), or sadistic or masochistic abuse. The image of sexually explicit conduct can involve a real child; a computer-generated, morphed, composite or otherwise altered image that appears to be a child (think of images that have been altered using "Photoshop"); or an adult who appears to be a child; and the image can be non-photographic (e.g., drawings, cartoons, anime, paintings, or sculptures) so long as the subject is engaging in sexually explicit conduct that is obscene. If it is indistinguishable from child pornography, it is child pornography.

Even if the pornographic image depicts children in a literary (think of the famous book "Lolita"), political (think of political cartoons), artistic, or scientific context, please send the link to your employer/company as instructed below.

Depiction of the genitals does not require the genitals to be uncovered. Thus, for example, a video of underage teenage girls dancing erotically, with multiple close-up shots of their covered genitals, or images of children with opaque underwear that focus on the genitalia could be considered child pornography.

An image of a naked child (e.g., in the bathtub or at a nudist colony) is not considered child pornography as long as the child is not engaging in sexually explicit conduct, or the focus is not on the child's genitalia. Visual depictions of adults who look like children (e.g., a 35-year-old man play-acting in diapers, or an obvious woman dressed as a school girl) are not child pornography. If you don't think it's a minor, it probably isn't child pornography. However, if you cannot tell that the person in the image is over 18 (e.g., an under-developed 18-year-old whose body hair has been waxed), that is child pornography.

#### **Reporting Instructions**

Please report images containing child pornography (URLs only) as instructed by your employer/company.

### 15.4 Foreign Language Flag

#### 15.4.1 Using the Foreign Language Flag

Please do not assign the **Foreign Language** flag when the language on the landing page is one of the following:

- The task language
- A language that is commonly used by a significant percentage of the population in the task location
- English

For example, most Catalan-speaking users in Spain also speak Spanish. Therefore, for rating tasks in Catalan (ES), the Foreign Language flag should NOT be assigned to landing pages in Catalan, Spanish, or English.

Here is a screenshot of a result block that shows when the Foreign Language flag would be used.



#### Important:

- Please assign the Foreign Language flag even if you personally understand the language, but most users in your locale do not.
- Please assign the **Foreign Language** flag based on the language of the landing page, not the appearance of the result block.
- Please remember to flag all foreign pages with the **Foreign Language** flag, even if most users in your locale would expect or want a foreign language page for the query.
- Sometimes it is difficult to determine what language the landing page is in. The LP may have multiple languages or no words at all. In these cases, try to represent users in your locale. Does it feel like a foreign language page? When in doubt, don't use the **Foreign Language** flag.

## 15.4.2 Needs Met Rating for Foreign Language Results

You must assign a Needs Met rating for all result blocks in your task, even if the result blocks have a foreign language landing page.

In most cases, pages you flag as **Foreign Language** should be rated **FailsM**, because they cannot be understood by most users in your locale and are therefore useless. Remember that if users in your locale can read the language, then you shouldn't be using the **Foreign Language** flag. Occasionally, you will encounter helpful **Foreign Language** pages.

If the query clearly indicates that most users would expect or want a foreign language result, then the Needs Met rating of the foreign language page should *not* be **FailsM**. For example, please assign the **FullyM** rating and **Foreign Language** flag for baidu.com if the query is [baidu.com], English (US).

Videos are often an example where foreign language pages are helpful and desired. Think about user intent and what pages are good for users. If the query "asks" for a foreign language song, band, film, sporting event, etc., then a video of the song, band, film, sporting event, etc. is helpful since it can probably be understood or enjoyed even though it is in a foreign language. For these types of queries, foreign language results are often expected.

If the video is someone talking about the song, band, film, or event, the result probably cannot be understood or enjoyed and should be assigned a **FailsM** rating and the **Foreign Language** flag.

Note: If you are unable to evaluate the Page Quality rating of a **Foreign Language** result, you do not need to assign a Page Quality rating and can leave the slider at **N/A**.

Query and User Intent	Result Block and LP, Needs Met Rating	Explanation
Query: [video of celine dion singing s'il suffisait d'aimer]  Locale: English (US)  User Intent: Watch a video of Celine Dion singing this song.	Celine Dion - S'il Suffisait D'aimer Live - YouTube  YouTube Pop Sep 2, 2011 Open on youtube.com	This video is just what English (US) users are looking for, even though the video is not in English. The language of the LP is mostly English (even though the video is in French), so the <b>Foreign Language</b> flag is not needed.
Query: [alex c]  Locale: English (US)  User Intent: Watch a video or listen to a song by this German composer or find information about him.	Alex C ft. Yass- Doktorspiele - YouTube  YouTube app Mar 26, 2011 Open on youtube.com	The query is for the German composer, Alex C. The landing page has a video with one of his songs sung by Y-ass (misspelled as "Yass" in the YouTube title) in German. It would be helpful for some or many English (US) users who type the query, even though it is not in English. The language of the landing page isn't clear. Use your judgment when deciding whether to assign the <b>Foreign Language</b> flag.
Query: [kasal, kasali, kasalo]  Locale: English (US)  User Intent: Watch a trailer of this Filipino film or find information about it.	Kasal Kasalo Kasali - YouTube m.youtube.com/watc Apr 8, 2007  FailsM SM MM HM FullyM	The query is for "Kasal, Kasali, Kasalo," a Filipino film. The LP is a clip from the movie in Filipino (Tagalog), the language spoken in the Philippines. It would be helpful for many English (US) users who type the query, even though it is not in English. Use your judgment when deciding whether to assign the <b>Foreign Language</b> flag.

### 15.5 Did Not Load Flag

#### 15.5.1 Using the Did Not Load Flag

Did Not Load is used to indicate technical problems with the webpage that prevent users from viewing any LP content.

Use the **Did Not Load** flag when:

- The MC of the landing page is a web server or web application error message and there is no other content on the page: no navigation links, no home link, no SC, and no Ads. See <a href="here">here</a> for a Wikipedia page on different types of error messages.
- The landing page is completely blank: no MC, no SC, and no Ads.

Assign the **Did Not Load** flag based on the landing page, not the result block.

Here is an example of a **Did Not Load** landing page. You cannot tell that the landing page doesn't load by looking at the result block.

Query and User Intent	Result Block and LP, Needs Met Rating, Flag	Explanation
Query: [douglas instruments]  User Intent: Navigate to the homepage of this website.	Douglas Instruments Success in Protein www.douglas.co.uk/ Douglas Instruments designs and manufactures robots for protein crystallization. Our systems are setting new standards  Falls M MM HM FullyM  Porn: No Foreign Language: No Did Not Load: Yes	This page displays a generic 404 message. There is no MC, SC, or Ads on the page.  This result merits a FailsM rating and the Did Not Load flag.

Here are screenshots of other types of landing pages that should be assigned the **Did Not Load** flag: DNL1, DNL2.

You should **not** use the **Did Not Load** flag for:

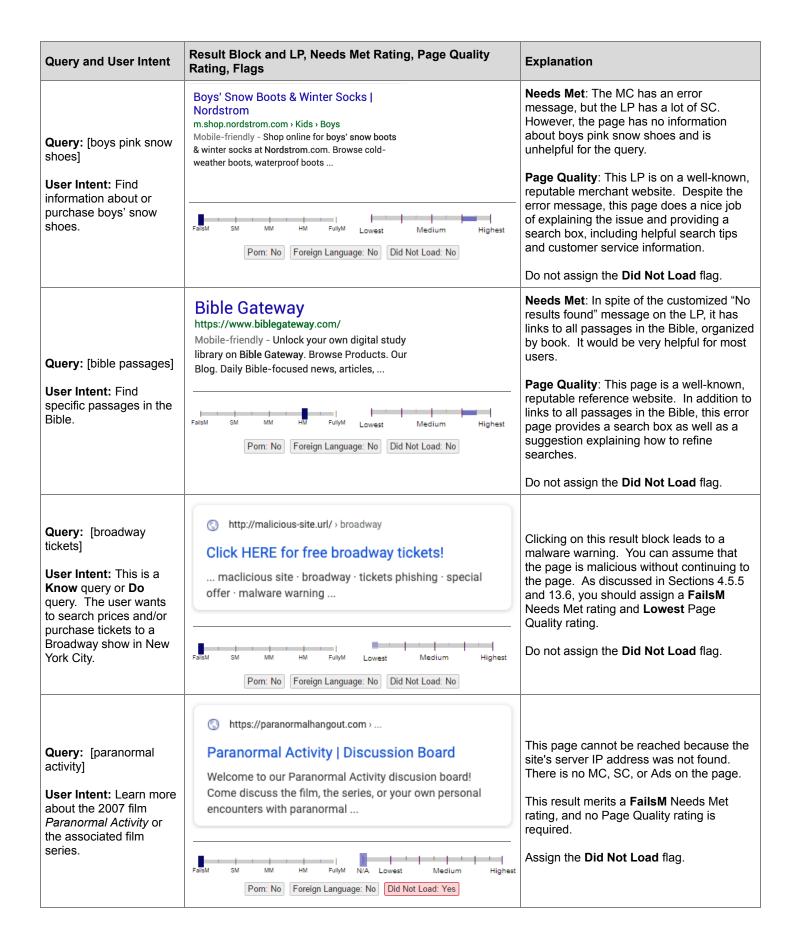
- Malware warnings, such as "Warning visiting this site may harm your computer!" (example).
- Pages that have removed or expired MC (e.g., expired classified listing, removed social media post, products or services unavailable).
- Pages that are inaccessible because you need a subscription to view the MC.

#### 15.5.2 Needs Met Rating and the Did Not Load Flag

All result blocks must be given a Needs Met rating. If the landing page truly doesn't load, assign the **Did Not Load** flag and rate the page **FailsM**. True **Did Not Load** pages are useless.

Sometimes the page partially loads or has an error message. Give Needs Met ratings based on how helpful the result is for the query. Error messages can be customized by the website owner and are part of a well-functioning website. Sometimes these pages are helpful for the query.

Note: If you are unable to evaluate the Page Quality rating of a **Did Not Load** result, you do not need to assign a Page Quality rating and can leave the slider at **N/A**.



### 15.6 Additional Flags in Some Rating Tasks

Some rating tasks may ask you to identify **Upsetting-Offensive** and/or **Not-for-Everyone** results.

Mark content that may be upsetting or offensive from the perspective of a typical user in your locale as **Upsetting-Offensive**, keeping in mind that people of all ages, genders, races, religions, and political affiliations use the Internet to understand the world and other points of views.

Mark content that may be unpleasant or uncomfortable for some people in your locale (e.g., content that may not be appropriate in a public space, professional environment, or school) as **Not-for-Everyone**.

## 16.0 Rating Queries with Multiple Interpretations and Intents

Some queries really only have one meaning. Consider the query [iphone], English (US). There may be different user intents for this query (research iPhones, buy an iPhone, go to the iPhone page on Apple's website), but all users are basically referring to the same thing: the phone made by Apple, Inc.

Some queries truly have different possible meanings. Consider the query [apple], English (US). Some users may want to find more information on the computer brand or the fruit. We refer to these different meanings as guery interpretations.

When giving Needs Met ratings for results involving different query interpretations, think about how likely the query interpretation is and how helpful the result is.

- A very helpful result for a **dominant interpretation** should be rated **Highly Meets**, because it is very helpful for many or most users. Some queries with a dominant interpretation have a **FullyM** result.
- A very helpful result for a common interpretation may be Highly Meets or Moderately Meets, depending on how likely the interpretation is.
- A very helpful result for a very minor interpretation may be Slightly Meets or lower because few users may be interested in that interpretation.
- There are some interpretations that are so unlikely that results should be rated FailsM. We call these "no chance" interpretations.

### 16.1 Rating Queries with Both Website and Visit-in-Person Intent

Some queries have two possible strong intents:

- 1. **Go to the website** intent: in order to, for example, find out information, buy something online, make a reservation, schedule an appointment, interact with customer support, or fulfill some other need that can be satisfied online
- 2. Visit-in-person intent: user wants to visit the store, business, etc. in person

We know the user intent is to accomplish one or the other, but it is unclear which one the user wants. For these queries, result blocks that only satisfy one intent should NOT get a **Fully Meets** rating.

Query and User Intent	Result Block and LP	Needs Met Rating and Explanation	
Query: [target] User Location: Jacksonville, Florida User Intent: There are two possible strong user intents: most users probably want to visit a nearby Target location or go to the website to shop online, research products, find prices, etc.	A Target  444 Monument Rd  Jacksonville Open until 10.00 pm  C Target  6331 Roosevelt Blvd  Jacksonville Open until 10.00 pm  More target	The result block shows three popular Target locations in Jacksonville, with information that is especially helpful for users who want to visit the store. This fulfills the user intent to find a nearby Target location.	
	Target m.target.com Mobile-friendly with \$25 purchase or free same day store pickup on all online orders  Search target.com  Q	The result is very satisfying and fulfills the user intent to shop online or otherwise use the website.	
Query: [dmv]  User Location: Belmont, California  User Intent: There are two possible strong user intents: most users probably want to visit a nearby DMV location or go to the DMV website to renew a license, pay a fee, find some information, etc.	San Mateo  Bair Island  A DMV Office in San Mateo  425 N Amphiett Blvd San Mateo  Closed now  B DMV  300 Brewster Ave Redwood City Closed now  CALL DIRECTIONS	The result block shows two nearby DMV locations, with information that is especially helpful for users who want to visit the locations. This fulfills the user intent to find a nearby DMV location.	
	DMV - State of California https://www.dmv.ca.gov  California DMV Home Page is available for customers to check out publications, download forms, brochures, FAQs,	The result is very satisfying and fulfills the user intent to find information or otherwise use the website (e.g., to review a license, pay a fee).	

Query and User Intent	Result Block and LP	Needs Met Rating and Explanation
Query: [citibank]  User Location: Palo Alto, California  User Intent: There are two possible strong user intents: most users probably want to visit a nearby Citibank location or go to the website to bank online.	A Citibank 250 University Ave Palo Alto Closed now  B Citibank 2401 El Camino Real Palo Alto Closed now  C Citibank 608 San Antonio Rd Mountain View Closed now  CALL DIRECTIONS  CALL DIRECTIONS  CALL DIRECTIONS  CALL DIRECTIONS	The result block shows three nearby Citibank locations in the user location of Palo Alto. The information is especially helpful for users who want to visit the bank. This fulfills the user intent to find a nearby Citibank location.
	Citibank: Sign On https://online.citibank.com	FaitsM SM MM HM FullyM
	Mobile-friendly - Discover financial services tailored to your life from Citibank®. Learn more about our full range of banking products, Citi® Credit Cards - Login - Sign On	The result is very satisfying and fulfills the user intent to do online banking or otherwise use the website.

# 17.0 Specificity of Queries and Landing Pages

Some queries are very general and some queries are specific. Here are some examples that compare levels of specificity of English (US) queries:

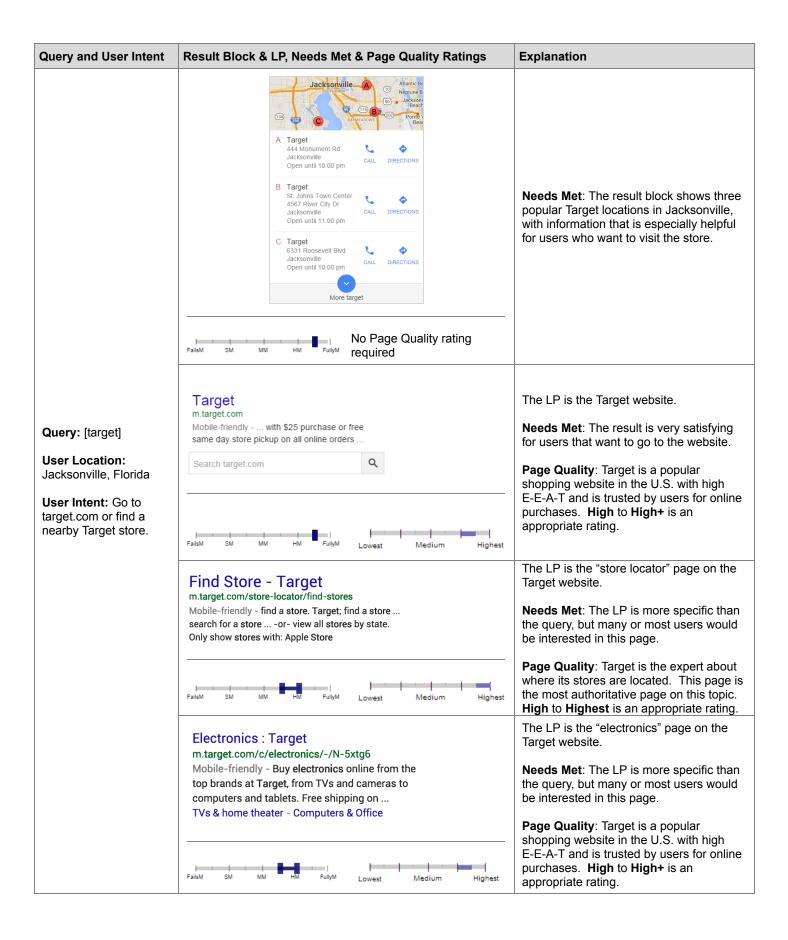
Query	More Specific Query	Even More Specific Query
[chair]	[dining room chair]	[ikea "henriksdal" highback upholstered chair]
[library]	[harvard library]	[harvard anthropology library]
[interview questions]	[interview questions for teachers]	[practice interview questions used for teach for america]
[restaurants]	[chinese restaurants]	[takeout chinese restaurants in downtown Austin]
[coffee shops]	[starbucks]	[red rock coffee mountain view]

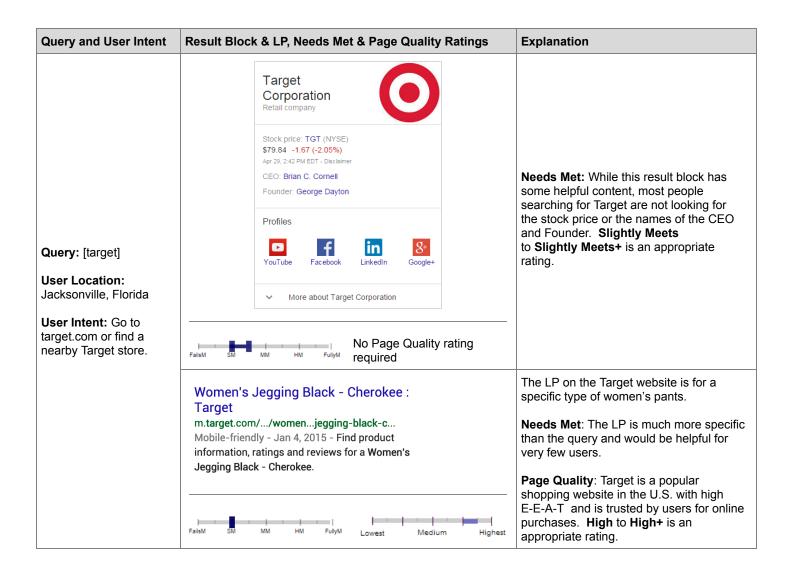
Results for specific queries are easier to rate on the Needs Met scale because we know more about what the user is looking for. Giving a Needs Met rating for results for general queries can be difficult. As always, your rating is based on how helpful the result is for the query, not the specificity fit.

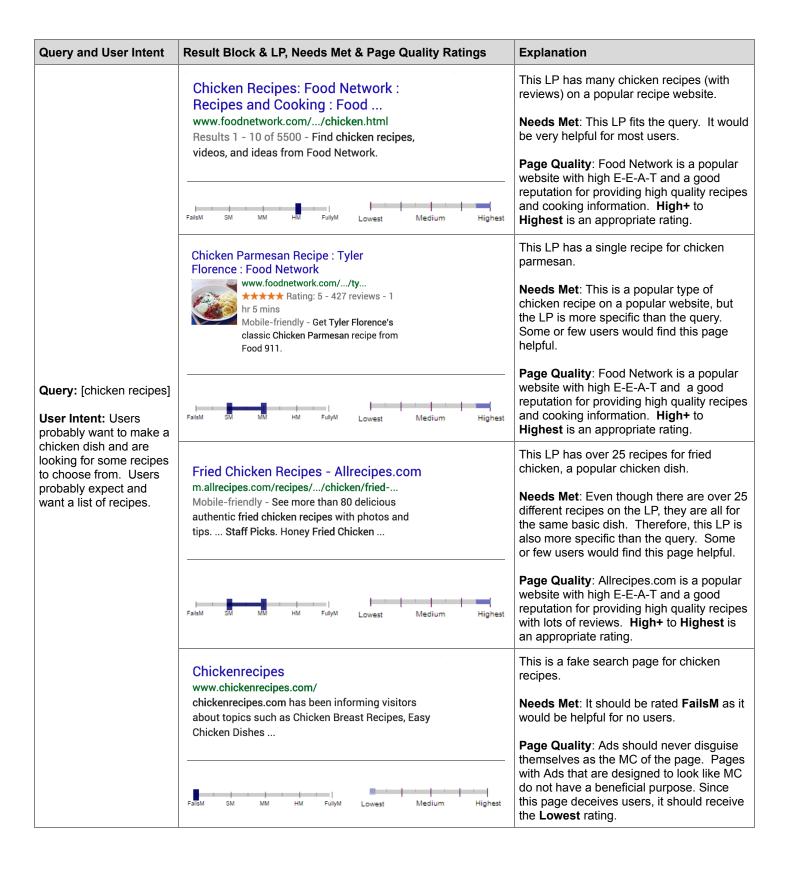
When the query is a broad category, such as [cafes] [restaurants] [hotels] [books] [tourist attractions in paris] etc., popular and prominent examples may be considered very helpful. Please do web research to help you understand what is popular and prominent in different locations.

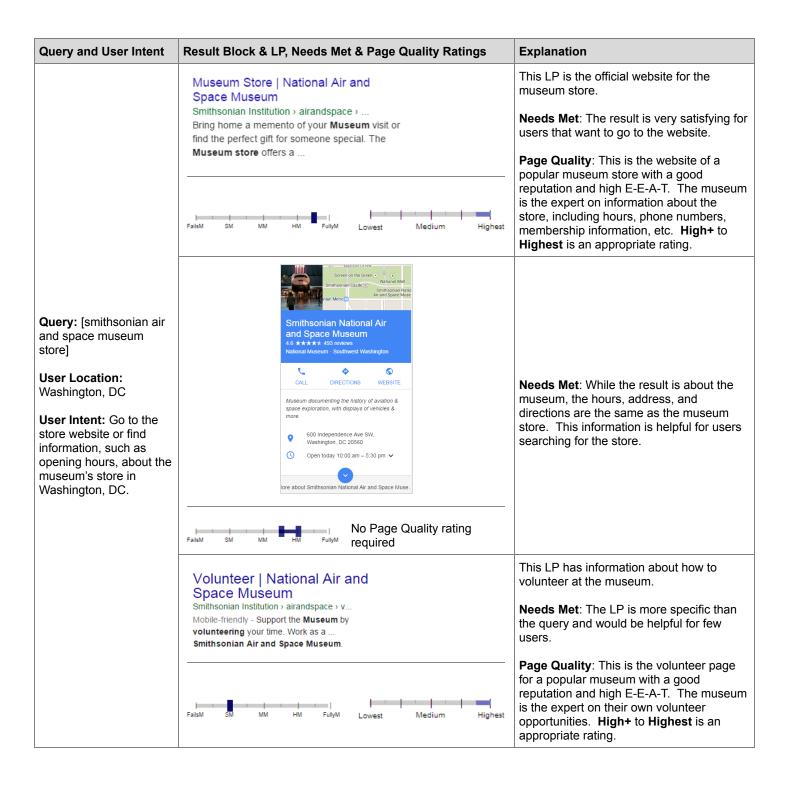
Query and User Intent	Result Block & LP, Needs Met & Page Quality Ratings	Explanation
	Credit cards & Rewards credit cards   Visa USA usa.visa.com/cards/credit-cards/index.js Mobile-friendly - Whether you are looking for a premium rewards card or a traditional credit card, Visa has something to fit your needs. Apply for a Credit Card - Apply	Even though there are many options, a page for an individual company that offers different cards could be very helpful.  Needs Met: This LP is more specific than the query, but could still be helpful for many or most users because Visa is a popular credit card company.
	FailsM SM MM HM FullyM Lowest Medium Highest	Page Quality: Visa is a credit card company with high E-E-A-T that offers services for credit cards, banking, etc. and has a good reputation. High+ to Highest is an appropriate rating.
	Credit Cards and Credit Card Offers - Apply Online   Discover Card https://www.discover.com/credit-cards/	Even though there are many options, a page for an individual company that offers different cards could be very helpful.
Query: [credit cards]  User Intent: Users are probably looking to sign up for a credit card	Mobile-friendly - See all the ways you can earn and enjoy credit card rewards with the Discover it credit card, the game changing cash	Needs Met: This LP is more specific than the query, but could still be helpful for many or most users because Discover is a popular credit card company.
	FailsM SM MM HM FullyM Lowest Medium Highest	Page Quality: Discover is a company with high E-E-A-T that offers services for credit cards, banking, etc. with a good reputation. High+ to Highest is an appropriate rating.
online, or want to research credit cards before signing up.	Best Credit Cards of 2015: Reviews, Rewards and Offers - NerdWallet	This page offers a list of top credit cards in a variety of categories.
	www.nerdwallet.com/the-best-credit-cards Mobile-friendly - NerdWallet's credit card experts rank the best credit cards out there. Offers include	<b>Needs Met</b> : This LP fits the query. It would be helpful for most users.
	no fee cash back cards with up to 5%	Page Quality: This website helps consumers make money decisions. It has a good reputation, high E-E-A-T, and has been recommended by several major
	FalisM SM MM HM FullyM Lowest Medium Highest	newspapers. <b>High</b> is an appropriate rating.
	Union Plus Credit Card for Union Members	This page describes a credit card that requires union membership.
	www.unionplus.org/credit/credit-card  Mobile-friendly - The Union Plus Credit Card is  designed for union members. The credit card offers	Needs Met: Since the credit card requires union membership, the page would be helpful for some users.
	financial hardship assistance, strike  FallsM SM MM HM FullyM Lowest Medium Highest	Page Quality: This company is an expert on its own credit card, which is issued by HSBC Bank, a financial services organization with a good reputation and high E-E-A-T. High is an appropriate rating.

Query and User Intent	Result Block & LP, Needs Met & Page Quality Ratings	Explanation
	Hotels, Hotel Rooms, Discount Hotel Rates & Cheap Motels on Orbitz www.orbitz.com/hotels/ Mobile-friendly - Find discount hotels, motels, and cheap hotel rooms with hotel reviews on Orbitz. Get our lowest hotel rates on our	This is a popular travel aggregator website, and the hotel page on the site can help users find hotels in the U.S. Users can read reviews, compare hotels, or make a reservation.  Needs Met: This LP fits the query. It would be very helpful for most users.
	FallsM SM MM HM FullyM Lowest Medium Highest	Page Quality: Orbitz is a popular website with high E-E-A-T and a good reputation. High is an appropriate rating.
Query: [hotels]  User Intent: Users are probably planning a trip, but this query is very general and vague.	Marriott www.marriott.com/default.mi Mobile-friendly - Browse and book hotel rooms that suit your needs and style and start your next adventure with Marriott.	This is a very popular hotel chain with hotels available in the majority of the U.S. at many different price points.  Even though the list of possible hotel chains is long, the homepage of an individual chain that offers different prices, features, and location options could be
		Needs Met: This LP is more specific than the query, but it would still be helpful for many or most users because the Marriott is a popular chain of hotels.
	FallsM SM MM HM FullyM Lowest Medium Highest	Page Quality: The Marriott website gives information on Marriott hotels, a popular chain of hotels. Marriott has a good reputation and is an expert on Marriott hotels, making the information on this page highly authoritative. High+ to Highest is an appropriate rating.
	Emeryville Hotels near Berkeley CA   Courtyard Hotel in Marriott www.marriott.com/hotels//oakmv-court Mobile-friendly - 4 days ago - This Emeryville, CA hotel near Berkeley offers a modern lobby with	This is the webpage of the Marriott Courtyard hotel in Emeryville, California.  Needs Met: The LP is too specific for the query, but this is a well-known brand and users can navigate to other Marriott hotels
	flexible work spaces, free Wi-Fi  Hotel Details - 5555 Shellmound Street	from this page. Few users would find this page helpful.  Page Quality: The Marriott website gives
	FallsM SM MM HM FullyM Lowest Medium Highest	information on Marriott hotels, a popular chain of hotels. Marriott has a good reputation and is an expert on Marriott hotels, making the information on this page highly authoritative. <b>High+</b> to <b>Highest</b> is an appropriate rating.









Query and User Intent	Result Block & LP, Needs Met & Page Quality Ratings	Explanation
Query: [smithsonian air and space museum store]  User Location: Washington, DC  User Intent: Go to the store website or find information, such as opening hours, about the museum's store in Washington, DC.	Smithsonian Museum of Natural History Gift Shops  4.1 ***** 14 reviews \$55 Gift Shops  4.1 **** 14 reviews \$55 Gift Shops  5.2 *** 14 reviews \$55 Gift Shops  4.1 **** 14 reviews \$55 Gift Shops  5.2 *** 14 reviews \$55 Gift Shops  6.2 *** 14 reviews \$55 Gift Shops  6.3 *** 14 reviews \$55 Gift Shops  6.4 *** 14 reviews \$55 Gift Shops  6.5 ** 14 reviews \$55 Gift Shops  6.5 ** 14 reviews \$55 Gift Shops  6.6 ** 14 reviews \$55 Gift Shops  6.7 ** 14 reviews \$10 reviews	Needs Met: This is not the museum requested in the query so the result Fails to Meet the user intent.

### 18.0 Needs Met Rating and Freshness

Some queries demand very recent or "fresh" information. Users may be looking for "breaking news," such as an important event or natural disaster happening right now. Here are different types of queries demanding current/recent results.

Type of Query	Example Queries	Explanation
"Breaking news" queries	[tornado], [tsunami]	Assume users need the information right away.  Imagine someone who needs immediate weather information because a big storm is coming. Information about last year's weather would not be helpful.
Recurring event queries, such as elections, sports events, TV shows, conferences, etc.	[olympics], [american idol], [redsox schedule], [tax forms], [elections]	Assume users are looking for the most recent or current information about the event.  For example, if the Olympics are happening right now, users searching [olympics] want information about the current Olympics, not results from years ago. If the next Olympics are a few months away, users are probably interested in the upcoming Olympics.
Current information queries	[population of paris], [amount of u.s. debt], [airfare from ny to sfo], [next federal holiday]	Assume users are looking for the most current information, such as prices or airfare.
Product queries	[iphone], [toyota camry], [windows operating system]	Assume users are looking for information about the most recent model/version for these product queries.

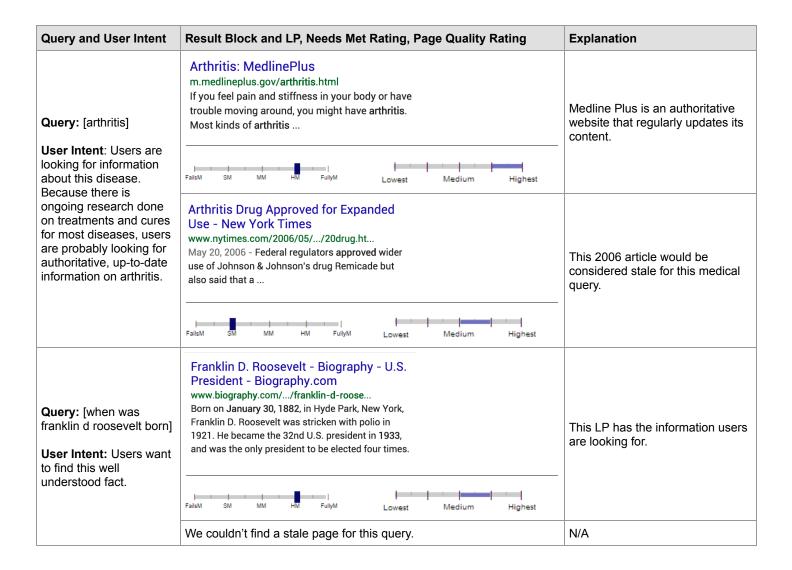
When a query demands recent content, only pages with current, recent, or updated content should get high Needs Met ratings. For these queries, pages about past events, old product models and prices, outdated information, etc. are not helpful. They should be considered "stale" and given low Needs Met ratings. In some cases, stale results are useless and should be rated **FailsM**.

For some queries, there may be "newsy" or recent information user intent, as well as more "timeless" information user intent. Users issuing queries for celebrities or politicians may be interested in biographical information, or users may be looking for the latest news or gossip.

Freshness is generally less of a concern for Page Quality rating. "Stale" pages can have high Page Quality ratings. For example, some highly reputable news websites maintain "archival" content. However, unmaintained/abandoned "old" websites or unmaintained and inaccurate/misleading content is a reason for a low Page Quality rating.

**Note**: The date the page was created may be different from when the content was last updated or modified. When content is updated, the page will sometimes show the date of the update, not the date the page was created. Some websites always show the current date, regardless of when the content was last updated. If you are curious about the content of a page, see <a href="here">here</a> to try the "Wayback Machine" on the Internet Archive. Not all pages are available, but this tool may help you understand how some pages were created and how their content has changed over time.

Query and User Intent	Result Block and LP, Needs Met Rating, Page Quality Rating	Explanation
Query: [nasa mars landing] User Intent: On the date	Curiosity Rover Lands Safely on Mars - NYTimes.com mobile.nytimes.com//curiosity-rover-la Mobile-friendly - Aug 6, 2012 - One of the first test images from NASA's Mars Curiosity rover that helped signal that everything was	This LP has an article about the "Curiosity" rover landing, published on the same day as the landing, which is the day this example was written.
this example was written, NASA had just landed the "Curiosity" rover on Mars. Most users are probably looking for breaking news and pictures about the event.	NASA's Curiosity Rover Sets Off for Mars Mission - NYTimes.com www.nytimes.com/nasas-curiosity-rov Nov 26, 2011 - NASA Launches Sophisticated Rover on Journey to Mars. NASA/Reuters. A rendering of the Mars	This LP has an article about the launching of the "Curiosity" rover, published nine months before its landing on Mars. The content on this page would be considered stale for the query.
Query: [los angeles traffic]  User Location: Los Angeles, California  User Intent: Users are	Your commute: Live L.A. traffic conditions   L.A. NOW   Los Angeles   latimesblogs.latimes.com//2012//your   Mobile-friendly - Your commute: Live L.A. traffic conditions. August 7, 2012   4:30 pm. Los Angeles .   Traffic Report by Sigalert.com.	This LP shows traffic conditions in Los Angeles on August 7, 2012, which is the day this example was written.
looking for <b>current</b> information about traffic conditions in Los Angeles. Even pages about traffic conditions the day before would be considered stale for the query.	Your commute: Live L.A. traffic conditions   L.A. NOW   Los Angeles   latimesblogs.latimes.com//2012//your   Mobile-friendly - Your commute: Live L.A. traffic conditions. August 6, 2012   6:30 am. Los Angeles .   Traffic Report by Sigalert.com.	This LP shows traffic conditions in Los Angeles on August 6, 2012. It is stale and useless for the query even though it is only one day old.
Query: [nobel peace prize winner]  User Intent: Find the name of the most recent winner of this prize. This	Nobel Peace Prize Awarded to Three Activist Women www.nytimes.com/2011//nobel-peace Published: October 7, 2011 Among 3 Women Awarded Nobel Peace Prize, a Nod to the Arab Spring (October 8, 2011)  FallsM SM MM HM FullyM Lowest Medium Highest	This LP on the New York Times website has information about the most recent winner of this prize, based on the date when this example was written.
is a <b>Know Simple</b> query. At the time this example was originally written, 2011 was the most recent year that the Nobel Peace Prize was awarded.	BBC NEWS   Europe   Nobel for anti-poverty pioneers news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/europe/6047020.stm Oct 13, 2006 - Muhammad Yunus of Bangladesh and the Grameen Bank have been jointly awarded the 2006 Nobel	This LP on the BBC website has information about the 2006 winner of this prize. This page is stale for the query.



#### 19.0 Misspelled and Mistyped Queries and Results

#### 19.1 Misspelled and Mistyped Queries

You will notice that some queries are misspelled or mistyped. Here are some examples of queries that are obviously misspelled:

Misspelled Query	Query Interpretation
[federal expres], English (US)	The only reasonable query interpretation is the company named Federal Express.
[new england patroits], English US)	The only reasonable interpretation is the NFL football team.
[byonce knowles], English (US)	The only reasonable interpretation is the famous singer/actress, Beyonce Knowles.

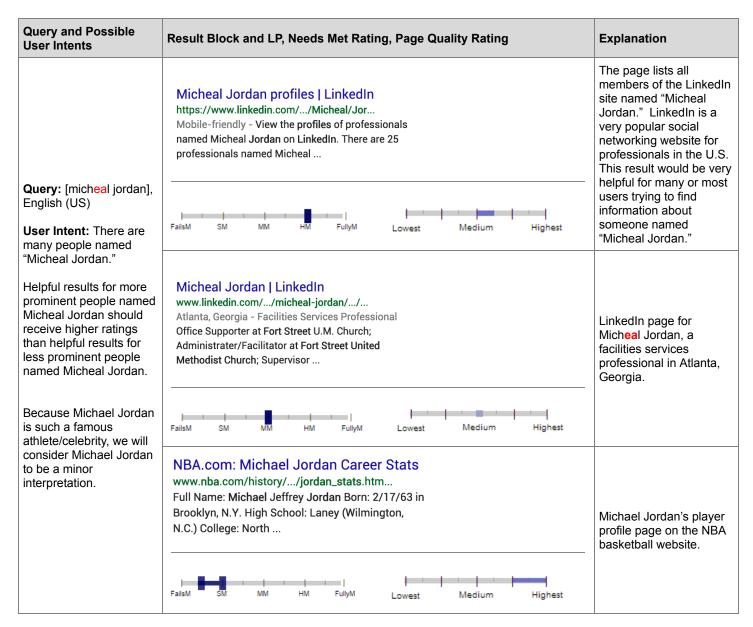
Some misspelled or mistyped queries are more difficult to interpret. Use your judgment and do query research.

For **obviously** misspelled or mistyped queries, you should base your rating on user intent, not necessarily on exactly how the query has been spelled or typed by the user.

For queries that are **not** obviously misspelled or mistyped, you should **respect the query as written**, and assume users are looking for results for the query as it is spelled.

#### 19.2 Name Queries

Consider the query [john stuart], English (US). There is a very famous Jon Stewart, the comedian and former host of a popular U.S. television show. However, we should not assume that the query [john stuart] has been misspelled. There are many people named John Stuart. We will respect the query as written and assume the user is looking for someone named "John Stuart."

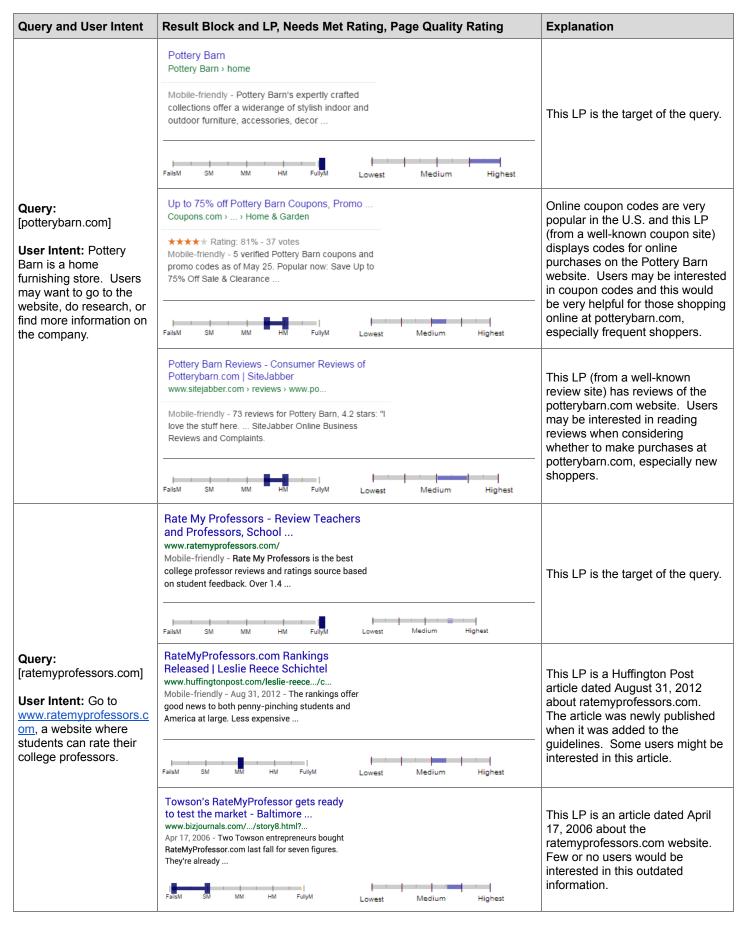


#### 20.0 Non-Fully Meets Results for URL Queries

Raters sometimes ask the question, "For a well-formed working URL query, are the only acceptable Needs Met ratings for a result either **Fully Meets** or **Fails to Meet?**" The answer is no. There can be other helpful results for URL queries.

Some users issue URL queries to find information about a website, such as reviews or recent news. We recommended this to you as one method of reputation research in the PQ guidelines. Real users do this too. Results that give reviews and reputation information can be very helpful for a URL query.

However, websites that offer usage statistics about a website are not usually helpful results for URL queries. Most users aren't interested in this kind of information.



# 21.0 Product Queries: Importance of Browsing and Researching

Some product queries, such as [ipad reviews], have a clear information-seeking (**Know**) intent. Other product queries, such as [buy ipad], have a clear purchase (**Do**) intent. And some product queries, such as [ipad store.apple.com], have a clear navigation (**Website**) intent. However, most product queries don't obviously specify one type of intent.

Keep in mind that many users enjoy browsing and visually exploring products online, similar to window shopping in real life. Give high Needs Met ratings to results that allow users to research, browse, and decide what to purchase.

Users may not always plan to buy products online that they are browsing and researching, for example, cars or major appliances. Even though the ultimate goal may be to purchase a product, many other activities may take place first: researching the product (reviews, technical specifications), understanding the options that are available (brands, models, pricing), viewing and considering various options (browsing), etc.

**Important**: Page Quality ratings for product results need extra care and attention.

Query and User Intent	Result Block and LP, Needs Met Rating, Page Quality Rating	Explanation
Query: [high definition tv]  User Intent: This query doesn't specify a size or brand of TV. Users are	HDTV Reviews   HDTVs Review   PCMag.com www.pcmag.com/reviews/HDTV PCMag provides up-to-date coverage and product reviews of HDTVs.	This LP has comprehensive information about different types of high definition TVs (plasma, LCD, LED), as well as reviews about many specific models. The website is known for having
probably doing research before making a purchase.	FailsM SM MM HM FullyM Lowest Medium Highest	helpful reviews and information about electronics.
Query: [girl toddler jeans size 3T]  User Intent: The query is very specific. The user wants to browse and find an item to buy.	Toddler Girl Jeans at babyGap   Gap - Free Shipping on \$50 www.gap.com > Home > Toddler Clothing Mobile-friendly - Gap toddler girl jeans collection includes a variety of popular styles. Pick from toddler girls jeans in skinny, wide leg and	This is a helpful page for browsing and shopping for toddler girls jeans. There are many options for jeans in size 3T. This is a high quality store known for selling jeans.
Query: [cufflinks]  User Intent: Most users probably want to find different cufflink styles and options to browse or	Cuff Links for Men & More Men's Jewelry   Nordstrom m.shop.nordstrom.com/c/mens-cuff-links Mobile-friendly - Free shipping on cuff links & men's jewelry at Nordstrom.com. Shop cuff links, tie clips, bracelets & necklaces. Totally	This LP has a large collection of cufflinks from a very reputable retailer. There are many options and styles. This is a good page for browsing. There are helpful features at the top to choose
purchase.	FailsM SM MM HM FullyM Lowest Medium Highest	styles, price ranges, etc.

Query and User Intent	Result Block and LP, Needs Met Rating	Explanation
Query: [twist of fate ring pandora]  User Intent: The user is looking for a specific ring sold by the Pandora brand and likely wants to research the ring, see what it looks like, find options to browse or purchase, etc.	View all images  FailsM SM MM HM FullyM	This result has a variety of images of the ring, showing different angles and materials. Knowing what the ring looks like is very helpful to users who are researching the product and browsing options that are available.

## 22.0 Rating Visit-in-Person Intent Queries

When there is a user location for a visit-in-person intent query and a location has not been specified in the query itself, such as [chinese restaurants] with a user location of **Boston**, **MA**, results in or near the user location are the most helpful.

How close is "near"? The type of business and/or entity should be taken into consideration when deciding if the distance of the visit-in-person result is too far. For example, most people are not willing to travel very far for a gas station, coffee shop, supermarket, etc. Those are types of businesses that most users expect to find nearby.

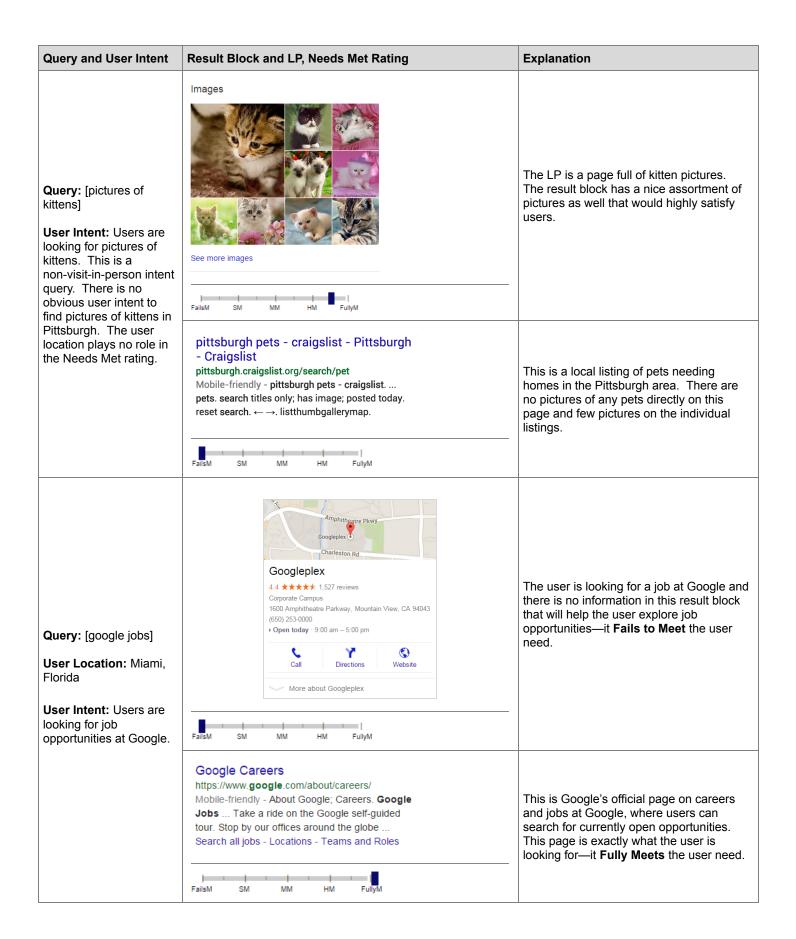
However, users might be willing to travel a little farther for certain kinds of visit-in-person results: doctors' offices, libraries, specific types of restaurants, public facilities like swimming pools, hiking trails in open spaces, etc. Sometimes users may accept results that are even farther away, such as a very specialized medical clinic.

In other words, when we say users are looking for results "nearby," the word "nearby" can mean different distances for different queries. As always, please use your judgment.

# 22.1 Examples Where User Location Does (and Does Not) Matter

As previously mentioned, the user location may not always change our understanding of the query and user intent. Below is one example where user location plays an important role, and two examples where user location does not matter.

Query and User Intent	Result Block and LP, Needs Met Rating	Explanation
Query: [minimum wage	Deriver United States  KANSAS  Map data 62014 Google, NEG  7.25 USD per hour (Jan 1, 2014)  Kansas, Minimum wage  Destinations and points of interest  FailsM SM MM HM FullyM	This SCRB displays the complete and correct answer prominently in the result block, in a way that is easy for users on mobile devices to read.  Note: Assume that the result shows current information for users at the time this example was written. If you were rating this task, you would need to verify that the minimum wage rate in this SCRB is accurate for the state of Kansas.
rate]  User Location: Wichita, Kansas  User Intent: Find out what the current minimum wage is. Different states in the U.S. have different minimum wage rates. Users might be interested in the minimum wage in their state and how it compares to other places.	Pay and Wage Requirements - Kansas Department of Labor https://www.dol.ks.gov/Laws/FAQwages Pay and Wage Requirements. Minimum Wage. What is the minimum wage in Kansas? The Kansas minimum wage is  FailsM SM MM HM FullyM	This is the official Kansas state website page on minimum wage for Kansas.
	Minimum Wage Laws in the States - Wage and Hour Division (WHD www.dol.gov > WHD Jan 1, 2015 - Interactive map of the United States comparing the Federal and state minimum wage amounts.  FailsM SM MM HM FullyM	This LP has the minimum wage rates for all states. It is on the official U.S. Department of Labor website, which has high E-E-A-T on the topic, but it takes some work to find the information specific to Kansas.
	Minimum wage - California Department of Industrial Relations www.dir.ca.gov/dlse/faq_minimumwage After your claim is completed and filed with a local office of the Division of Labor Standards Enforcement (DLSE), it will	This is the official California state website page on minimum wage for California.



#### 23.0 Rating English Language Results in Non-English Locales

The following rating guidance is for raters in non-English locales. You may stop reading this section if your task language is English, such as English (US), English (IN), English (NG), etc.

Your Needs Met ratings should reflect how helpful the result is for users in your locale. When the query is in the language of your locale, assume that users want results in that language. We know that **you** can read English (you are reading this document!), but you should only give high Needs Met ratings to English results if users in your locale would expect or want them for a particular query. Unless requested by the query, English results should be considered useless if most users in the locale can't read them.

However, rating can be more difficult when the query includes English names, words, etc., or when it's unclear whether English results would be satisfying for a particular query. Please use your judgment and knowledge of your locale to determine the appropriate rating.

**Important:** Please keep in mind that every locale will have unique considerations regarding the number and variety of languages (such as official languages, regional languages, local dialects, etc.), writing systems, and keyboard input languages commonly in use. While these guidelines may not include examples for your locale, it is important that you represent users in your task location and culture in order to interpret the query and rate results. When in doubt, please assume that users would prefer results in the task language unless the query clearly indicates otherwise.

### 23.1 Examples of English (and Non-English) Results in Non-English Locales

The section includes some examples using Hindi (IN) and Korean (KR) as the locales. In both cases, we cannot assume that users in these locales—i.e., Hindi-speaking users in India, or Korean-speaking users in Korea—are able to read English. Unless most users in the locale would be satisfied by English results for the query, we will consider them unhelpful or even useless (**FailsM**).

Query and User Intent	Result Block and LP, Needs Met Rating	Explanation
Query: [राजा रवि वर्मा] Locale: Hindi (IN) User Intent: The user wants to find information about राजा रवि वर्मा, an Indian artist.	राजा रिव वर्मा - विकिपीडिया https://hi.m.wikipedia.org > wiki > राज मोबाइल संगत - राजा रिव वर्मा (१८४८ - १९०६) भारत के विख्यात चित्रकार थे। उन्होंने भारतीय साहित्य और जीवन परिचय - कलाकृतियाँ - रोचक तथ्य - मुख्य कृतियाँ	This Hindi language Wikipedia page on <b>राजा रवि वर्मा</b> is very helpful for Hindi (IN) users.
	Raja Ravi Varma - Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia https://en.m.wikipedia.org > wiki > Raja मोबाइल संगत - Raja Ravi Varma Coil Thampuran (Malayalam: രാജാ രവിവർമ്മ; 29 April 1848 – 2 October 1906) was an Indian Laxmi Vilas Palace, Vadodara - Damayanti	This English Wikipedia page about राजा रवि वर्मा has similar content to the Hindi Wikipedia page. Although there are some helpful images on the page, few Hindi users would be able to read this page.
Query: [버락 오바마] Locale: Korean (KR)	버락 오바마 - 위키백과, 우리 모두의 백과사전ko.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/버락_오바마 Mobile-friendly - 버락 후세인 오바마 2세 대통령(영어: Barack Hussein Obama, Jr., 문화어: 버라크 오바마, 1961년 8월 4일 ~ , 미국 하와이	This Korean language Wikipedia page on Barack Obama is very helpful for Korean (KR) users.
User Intent: 버락 오바마 is Barack Obama in Korean, so the user wants to find information about Barack Obama.	Barack Obama - Wikipedia en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Barack_Obama Mobile-friendly - Barack Hussein Obama II is an American politician who served as the 44th President of the United States from 2009 to 2017. He is the first African American to	This English Wikipedia page about Barack Obama has similar content to the Korean Wikipedia page. Although there are some helpful images on the page, very few Korean users would be able to read this page.

Here are two examples where the query includes proper nouns typed in Latin script, such as famous people, places, titles of books or films, etc. For these queries, users would prefer to see results in the language of their locale.

Query and User Intent	Result Block and LP, Needs Met Rating	Explanation
Query: [ronaldo]	क्रिस्टियानो रोनाल्डो - विकिपीडिया https://hi.m.wikipedia.org > wiki > क्र मोबाइल संगत - पूरा नाम, क्रिस्टियानो रोनाल्डो डॉस सैंटोस अवीयरो. जन्मतिथि, (1985-02-05) 5 फ़रवरी 1985	Although the query was typed in Latin script, most Hindi users would want to see information about this person in Hindi. This Hindi language Wikipedia page on Cristiano Ronaldo is very helpful for Hindi IN) users.
Locale: Hindi (IN)  User Intent: The user wants to find information about Cristiano Ronaldo, a famous footballer.	Cristiano Ronaldo - Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia https://en.wikipedia.org > wiki > Cristian सोबाइल संगत - Cristiano <b>Ronaldo</b> dos Santos Aveiro, GOIH (born 5 February 1985), known as Cristiano <b>Ronaldo</b> (Portuguese Gemma Atkinson - Messi–Ronaldo rivalry	This English Wikipedia page about Cristiano Ronaldo has similar content to the Hindi Wikipedia page. Although there are some helpful images on the page, few Hindi users would be able to read this page.
Query: [titanic 1997]  Locale: Korean (KR)	타이타닉 - Daum 영화 m.movie.daum.net/m/detail/main.daum? 모바일 지원 - 1912년 북대서양의 차가운 바닷물 속에 서 당대 꿈의 배라고 불렸던 '타이타닉 호'가 탐사대들에 의해 세상에 발견되면서	Although the query was typed in Latin script, most Korean users would expect to see Korean language reviews or Korean stores for purchasing the movie.  This Korean result on a Korean website is very helpful.
User Intent: The user wants to purchase a DVD or find information about the movie "Titanic," released in 1997.	Titanic - IMDb m.imdb.com/title/tt0120338/ **** Rating: 7.7/10 - 640,553 votes Mobile-friendly - Titanic This made-for-TV movie is the tale of the famous · Titanic Jack discusses his view of the world with the first	This English language landing page has helpful content for users who can read English. Although there are some helpful images on the page, very few Korean users would be able to read this page.

Here are two additional examples where the query was typed in Latin script (including some English words), yet users would still prefer to see results in the language of their locale.

Query and User Intent	Result Block and LP, Needs Met Rating	Explanation
Query: [mahila cricket sri lanka ka match]	महिला टीम की श्रीलंका पर आसान जीत, तीन वनडे की सीरीज khabar.ndtv.com > क्रिकेट 6 hours ago टीम की श्रीलंका पर आसान जीत, तीन वनडे की सीरीज में ली 2-0 की अजेय बढ़त.	Although the query includes some English words, it is a Hindi query typed in Latin script. Most Hindi users would expect to see Hindi results, like this helpful article.
Locale: Hindi (IN)  User Intent: The user wants to find information about a women's cricket match against Sri Lanka on February 17, 2016.	Indian Women's Team Defeats Sri Lanka to Seal ODI Series - Cricket News - Sports sports.ndtv.com > cricket > 255592-india  Mobile-friendly - 6 hours ago - Indian women's cricket team defeated Sri Lanka by six wickets to take unbeatable 2-0 lead in	This English language landing page has helpful content for users who can read English, but few Hindi (IN) users would be able to read this page.
Query: [samsung tablet]  Locale: Korean (KR)	삼성 갤럭시 탭 www.samsung.com//tablet//SHW-M3 모바일 지원 - SAMSUNG 휴대폰,SKT,SHW- M380SFK3SC, Samsung GALAXY Tab 10.1 갤럭시탭10.1 스펙 - 특강점 - 고객지원 - 이미지	Although the query was typed in Latin script and includes some English words, most Korean users would expect to see the Korean page on the Samsung website. This Korean result is very helpful.
User Intent: The user wants to purchase, find information, or go to the Galaxy tablet page on the Samsung website.	Galaxy Tab: Android Tablet - Portable & Light Tablet  Samsung www.samsung.com/us/mobile/galaxy-tab/ Mobile-friendly - Meet the Samsung Galaxy Tab family including Galaxy Tab 10.1, 8.9 and 7.0 Plus. Sort by size or carrier and find the Galaxy Tab - WiFi Tablets	This English language page on the website of Samsung, the company that makes this tablet, has helpful content. Although there are some helpful images on the page, very few Korean users would be able to read this page.

On the other hand, there may be queries where the needs of most users would actually be satisfied by English language results, even if the query itself is typed in the task language.

For example, for queries about global businesses and organizations, users may expect or want to visit the English language version of the business/organization's official website in some locales. Similarly, for queries seeking technical information such as manufacturer part numbers, product specs, scientific or chemical formulas, etc., the answer to the query may be typically expressed in the English language in some locales.

For these queries, users may expect or want to see English results in order to satisfy their need. Please use your judgment and knowledge of your locale to determine the appropriate rating.

Query and User Intent	Result Block and LP, Needs Met Rating	Explanation
Query: [हार्वर्ड वेबसाइट]	Harvard University www.harvard.edu	
Locale: Hindi (IN)  User Intent: हार्वर्ड वेबसाइट is "Harvard website" in Hindi. Users want to go to the official website of Harvard University, which is a well-known research university in Cambridge, Massachusetts.	Harvard University is devoted to excellence in teaching, learning, and research, and to developing leaders in many disciplines who make a difference globally. Harvard University is made up of 11 principal academic  Admissions & Aid · Schools · Faculty · Harvard College	This is the official website of Harvard University. Even though the query was typed in Hindi, this English website is clearly what users are looking for. Users would be fully satisfied by this result.
Cambridge, Massashassas.	FailsM SM MM HM FullyM	
Query: [시스코 카탈리스트 스위치 IOS 복원하기]	Cisco Catalyst 스위치 (2900, 3500, 3750) IOS 복원하기 : 네이버 블로그 m.blog.naver.com > 220189570678	This article comes from a blog that contains lots of technical information and troubleshooting tips about IT operations and
Locale: Korean (KR)	III.biog.flaver.com / 2201093/00/0	programming. The landing page
User Intent: This Korean query can be translated as "recovering IOS on Cisco Catalyst switches". The user wants to find out how to restore the IOS operating system on a Cisco Catalyst switch, which is a specific brand/model of computer networking device.	2016. 6. 20 Cisco IOS Software, C3560 Software (C3560-IPSERVICESK9-M), Version 12.2(53)SE, Technical Support: http://www.cisco.com/techsupport	provides step-by-step instructions in Korean, along with the exact commands in English that users would need to type into a console in order to recover the operating system for the queried device. This tutorial would be very helpful and easy to follow for Korean users who are familiar with this type of networking device.
	FailsM SM MM HM FullyM	

Finally, in some locales, English is one of the official languages or a commonly spoken language. In these locales, English websites are easy to use and could be helpful, depending on the query.

For example, the Singapore government recognizes four official languages: English, Malay, Chinese, and Tamil, but English is the first and most dominant language in Singapore.

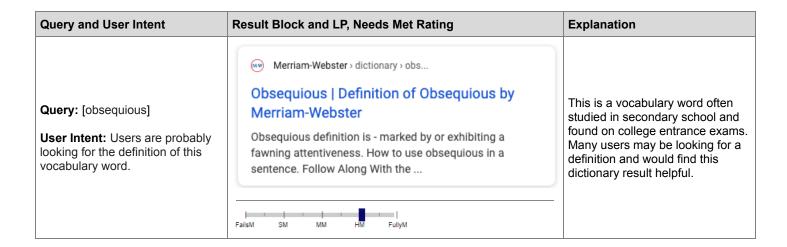
Query and User Intent	Result Block and LP, Needs Met Rating	Explanation
Query: [barack obama]  Locale: English (SG)  User Intent: Find information about Barack Obama.	Barack Obama - Wikipedia en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Barack_Obama Mobile-friendly - Barack Hussein Obama II is an American politician who served as the 44th President of the United States from 2009 to 2017. He is the first African American to	This Wikipedia page in English about Obama would be very helpful to users in Singapore.
	FailsM SM MM HM FullyM	

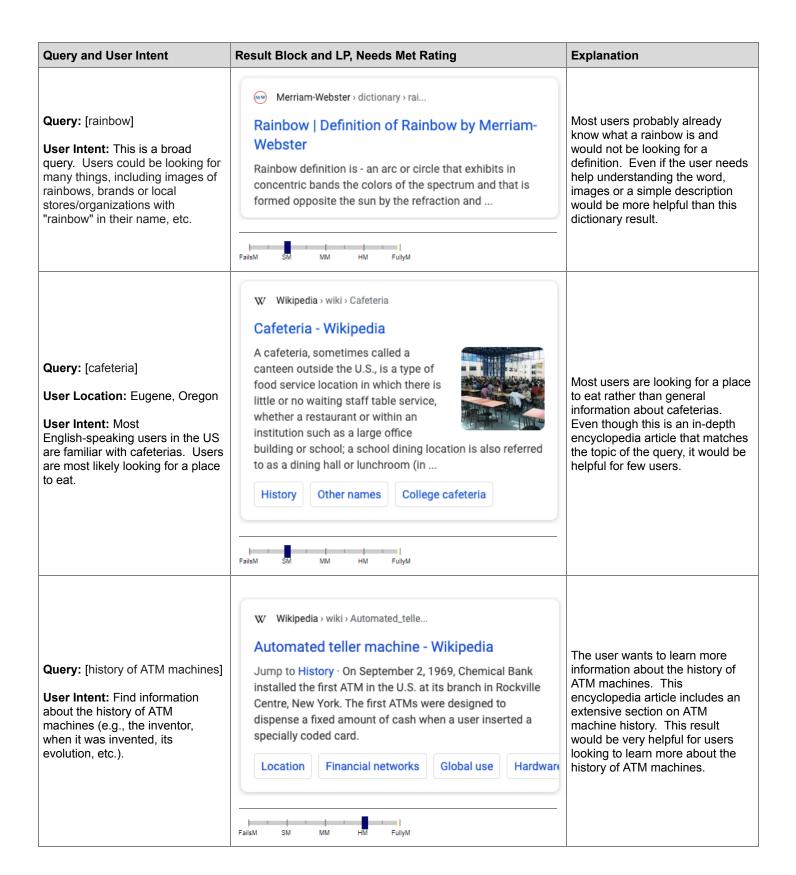
## 24.0 Rating Dictionary and Encyclopedia Results for Different Queries

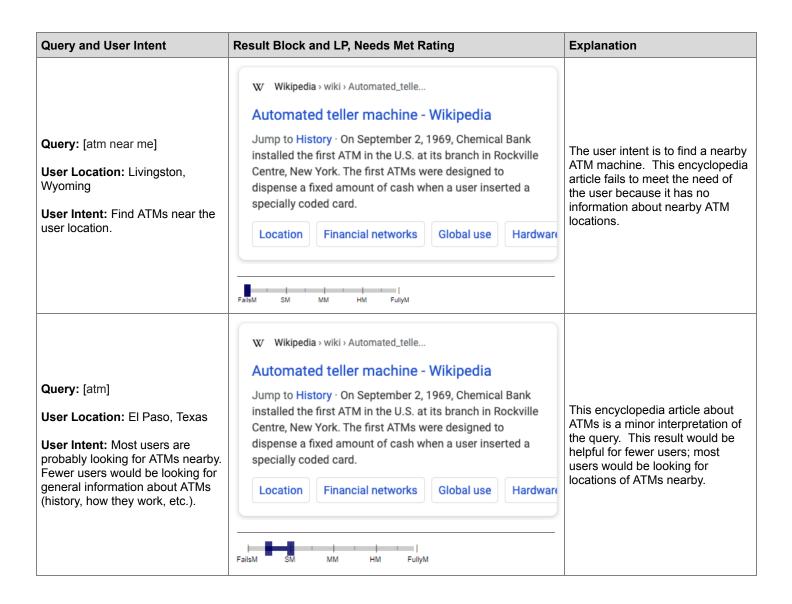
When assigning Needs Met ratings for dictionary and encyclopedia results, careful attention must be paid to the user intent. Like all results, the helpfulness of dictionary and encyclopedia results depend on the query and user intent.

Dictionary and encyclopedia results may be topically relevant for many searches, but often these results are not helpful for common words that most people in your rating locale already understand. Reserve high Needs Met ratings for dictionary and encyclopedia results when the user intent for the query is likely "what is it" or "what does it mean" and the result is helpful for users seeking that type of information.

**Important**: Think very carefully about the helpfulness of dictionary and encyclopedia results for ordinary words and common items. If few users would benefit from a dictionary or encyclopedia result for a common word, a **Slightly Meets** rating may be appropriate. If very few or no users would benefit, then **Fails to Meet** is appropriate.







# **Appendix: Using the Evaluation Platform**

#### 25.0 Overview

The Evaluation Platform is the system you will use to acquire and rate tasks. You can access the Evaluation Platform by going to this link: <a href="http://www.raterhub.com/evaluation/rater">http://www.raterhub.com/evaluation/rater</a>

As a Search Quality Rater, you will work on many different types of rating tasks. This section provides guidance on how to use certain features of the Evaluation Platform that you will encounter frequently in Page Quality (PQ) and Needs Met (NM) rating tasks. Some of these concepts may apply to other types of rating tasks as well.

**Important:** Many tasks that you receive will display project-specific instructions on the task page. You should always follow these project-specific instructions when they are provided.

#### 26.0 Acquiring Tasks

Here is a simplified screenshot of the task acquisition page on the Evaluation Platform. Please note that changes are sometimes made to the appearance of this page, so it may not look exactly as it appears below.



A few notes about how to acquire tasks from this page:

- rater@gmail.com: Make sure you are logged in to the account you used to sign up for the rating program.
- Acquire if available: Click this button to acquire a new task.
- Headphones or speakers required: This label indicates that the task requires headphones or speakers (for example, to listen to an audio file).

Please note you may see other types of labels next to the button on the task acquisition page. Sometimes there will be only one button, while other times you may see more than one button displayed to distinguish tasks with different requirements. When there is more than one displayed, you may choose the one you want to acquire.

#### 27.0 Rating Tasks Using the Rating Interface

Here is a general outline of the steps you should follow upon acquiring a task:

- 1. **Read the instructions:** Pay close attention to any project-specific instructions and examples if provided.
- 2. **Fill out the task:** Assign ratings to result blocks, provide comments, answer questions, etc. (as applicable).
- 3. **Check your work:** Verify that you entered your ratings as intended. Additionally, make sure that you provided a response to all required guestions.
- 4. **Submit the task:** Click the "Submit" button at the end of the page to submit the task and continue rating. Alternatively, click "Submit and Stop Rating" to submit the task and return to the Evaluation Platform homepage.

Additionally, here are a few general things to keep in mind when rating tasks:

- Result blocks are sometimes slow to load: Before assigning any ratings, please scan the task page to make sure that all result blocks have loaded. Please note that result blocks may be slow to load and/or that the task page may need reloading if there are empty result blocks. If the result blocks fail to load after refreshing a few times, please release the task by following the instructions in <u>Section 28.0</u> below.
- Sometimes a side will not have any result blocks: If one side displays the message "This side did not generate any results," please do not release the task.
- **Do not refresh the task page after assigning ratings:** If you refresh the page after assigning ratings, you will lose them and they will have to be entered again.

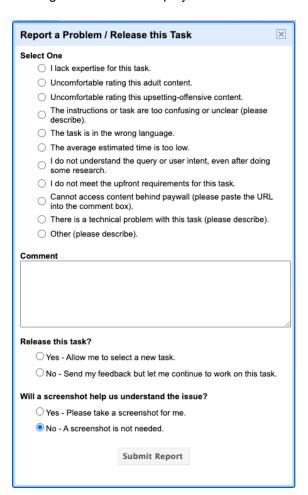
#### 28.0 Releasing Tasks

Most raters have difficulty rating some tasks now and then. Some queries are about highly technical topics (e.g., computer science or physics) or involve very specialized areas of interest (e.g., gaming or torrents).

You will report problems and release tasks using the "Report a Problem / Release this Task" button in the rating interface. Here is what the "Report a Problem / Release this Task" button looks like:

#### Report a Problem / Release this Task

Clicking the red button displays a menu with several reporting and release options:



Please note that changes are sometimes made to this menu, so it may not look exactly as it appears above.

In general, you should choose whichever option best describes your reason for releasing the task. If you are unsure, please select the closest option, or contact your employer/company for further guidance.

Please leave a comment explaining the release when it makes sense to provide additional information, for example, when you are releasing for a "technical problem."

Here are some examples for the "lack expertise" and "technical problem" release options.

Lack expertise: These queries require specialized knowledge and may be difficult for some raters.

Query	General Query Topic
[cortisol secretion shows a blank pattern of secretion]	Scientific query
[minecraft gun and vehicles 1.1 mod installer]	Gaming query
[python pandas index like matrix]	Technical query

**Technical problem:** These result blocks have question marks and other characters where text should be.





Note: Based on the number and/or type of tasks that you release, you may be asked to provide additional details about the reason for some of the releases.

### 29.0 Understanding the User Location on the Task Page

The location of the user should be inferred from the map provided. The map can help clarify where the user was physically located when the query was issued.

On the map, the user location can be precise (blue dot), approximate (blue rectangle or circle), or missing altogether if the user location is unknown. Here are some examples of what you might see at the top of the task:



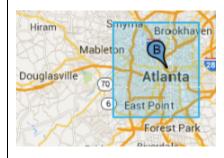
A precise user location is represented by a blue dot ( • ).



Sometimes you will see a shaded blue circle around the blue dot. The blue dot is the user's most likely location, but it is possible they are located anywhere within the larger shaded blue region.



The user can be located anywhere within the blue rectangle on the map.



The map includes a response pin, which is a marker for a visit-in-person result block in the task. If there are three visit-in-person result blocks in the task, there should be three response pins on the map.

# 30.0 Reporting Duplicate Results in Tasks

In some rating tasks, you may be asked to determine whether any results are Duplicates (dupes). This section provides guidance and examples of how to report duplicate results In Needs Met (NM) rating tasks.

#### 30.1 Pre-Identified Duplicates

Some duplicate results are automatically detected and will be pre-identified for you. They will be annotated by the text "Same as..." right below the slider and above the result block.

This is what these pre-identified dupes look like:



Please note: You cannot unselect dupes that have been automatically detected and pre-identified.

#### 30.2 Rater-Identified Duplicates

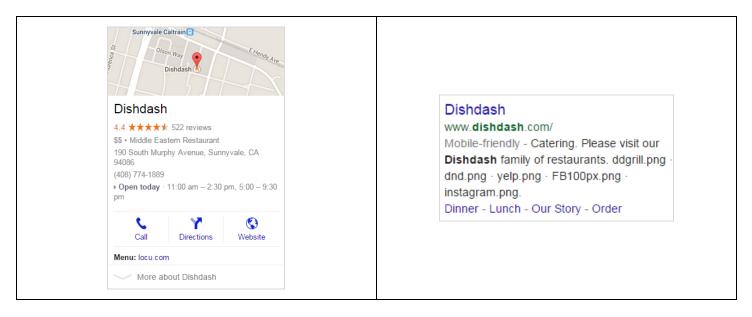
You are also asked to help identify duplicate results that have not been automatically detected. Please mark two results as dupes if they have essentially the same content on the main landing page AND you would not want a search engine to return both results for the query.

Please note that in Needs Met rating and other query-based tasks, dupe identification is query-dependent.

- **Specific queries**: For queries where the user is looking for a specific piece of content (such as queries looking for song lyrics, queries looking for a specific article, etc.), obtaining that piece of content from **different sites** could be helpful for users to verify the information, so they should **not** be rated as dupes.
- Broad queries: If the query is broad, then returning the same piece of content is not what the user is looking for, and hence those results should be flagged as dupes. Results may be considered dupes even if they have minor content differences on the page (such as different ads, images, or related links).

Please identify dupes both within the same side and across sides. Even for cross-side results, you should still ask yourself the question, "Would users want to see both results if they were returned by the same search engine?"

**Note**: If two result blocks have very different types of content or very different appearances, do not mark them as duplicates even if they have the same landing page URL. For example, these two blocks should not be marked as duplicates of each other.



#### 30.3 Reporting Duplicate Results

When you notice that the results in two or more result blocks are duplicates, please click on the **Select Dupe** link at the top of one of the results. The current result (the result you clicked on) will be highlighted in red at the top of the block.



You can then check results that are duplicates of the current result, and the checked results will be highlighted in yellow. You must select the "**Dupe of**..." button.



The duplicate results that you checked will be annotated by "**Dupe of**..." text at the top of the block. After selecting all dupes, click on the **finish selecting dupes** link to return to the normal rating mode. The link's name will change back to **Select Dupes**, and you will be able to report other sets of dupes, if there are any. If you change your mind, you can always uncheck a result.

#### **Dupes**

QUERY: [choosing and installing a motorcycle battery]

URL 1: <a href="http://www.caimag.com/wordpress/2010/03/06/motorcycle-battery-how-to-choose-install">http://www.caimag.com/wordpress/2010/03/06/motorcycle-battery-how-to-choose-install</a>

URL 2: <a href="http://www.articlesbase.com/motorcycles-articles/choosing-and-installing-a-motorcycle-battery-47798.html">http://www.articlesbase.com/motorcycles-articles/choosing-and-installing-a-motorcycle-battery-47798.html</a>

**Reason**: Both of these results display the same article (which also appears on many other pages on the web). The only real difference between the landing pages are the Ads displayed around the article. The query is broad enough that users would **not** benefit by search engines returning more than one of these results.

#### **Dupes**

QUERY: [jason castro]

URL 1: <a href="http://www.myspace.com/jasoncastromusic">http://www.myspace.com/jasoncastromusic</a>

URL 2: <a href="http://www.myspace.com/jasoncastromusic?MyToken=503599bf-01cf-4427-bdf4-d63920c107f9">http://www.myspace.com/jasoncastromusic?MyToken=503599bf-01cf-4427-bdf4-d63920c107f9</a>

**Reason**: These two results have the same landing page, even though the URLs are different. Users would **not** benefit by search engines returning both results.

#### **Not Dupes**

QUERY: [material girl lyrics]

URL 1: http://www.lyricsfreak.com/m/madonna/material+girl 20086925.html

URL 2: http://www.lyrics007.com/Madonna%20Lyrics/Material%20Girl%20Lyrics.html

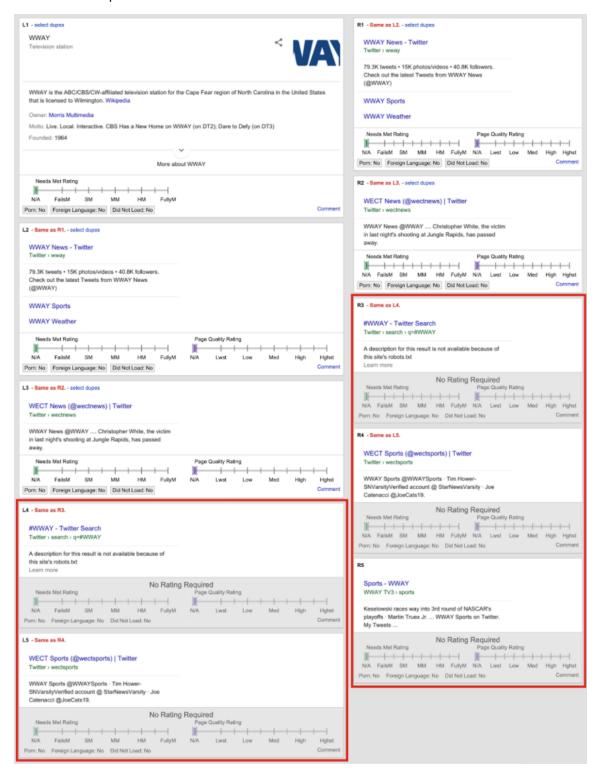
**Reason**: Even though both pages display the lyrics to the song "Material Girl," users would probably want to have the option to visit both pages so that they could verify the accuracy of the lyrics. Users could benefit by search engines returning more than one page with the lyrics to the song.

### 31.0 Simplified Needs Met Tasks

Some Needs Met rating tasks may not require ratings for all blocks. In these blocks, the Needs Met and Page Quality rating scales will be greyed out and annotated with the text "No Rating Required".

The greyed-out results (sometimes referred to as "contextual results") are shown to help you understand the query and inform your ratings. You can click on them when you feel like they will be helpful in determining your ratings.

Here is an example:



# **Appendix 2: Guideline Change Log**

This guideline is updated regularly to remain relevant over time. Changes from the past two years (December 2020 - December 2022) are summarized below.

Date Published	Summary of Changes
December 2022	<ul> <li>Broadly refreshed concepts and rating criteria in 'Part 1: Page Quality Guideline' to be more explicitly applicable to all types of websites and content creation models</li> <li>Clarified guidance on 'Finding Who is Responsible for the Website and Who Created the Content on the Page' for different webpage types</li> <li>Added summary table with the top 'Page Quality Considerations' involved in PQ rating, which carry through to each PQ rating section (Lowest to Highest)</li> <li>Refined/expanded guidance on the following core pillars of Page Quality Rating:         <ul> <li>'Main Content Quality'</li> <li>'Reputation for Websites and Content Creators'</li> <li>'Experience, Expertise, Authoritativeness, and Trust (E-E-A-T)'</li> </ul> </li> <li>Reordered PQ rating sections from Lowest to Highest; streamlined transitions between these sections; de-duped existing guidance and examples as appropriate</li> <li>Added more guidance and clarifications to sections: 'Pages with Error Messages or No MC', 'Forums and Q&amp;A Pages', and 'Page Quality Rating FAQs'</li> <li>Reformatted lists of concepts and examples into tables (throughout/as appropriate)</li> <li>Minor changes throughout (updated language, examples, and explanations for consistency across sections; removed outdated examples; fixed typos; etc.)</li> </ul>
July 2022	<ul> <li>Refreshed language to be aligned with the newly published <u>Search Quality Rater Guidelines: An Overview</u></li> <li>Refined YMYL to focus on topics that require a high level of accuracy to prevent significant harm; added a new table of examples and refreshed existing examples</li> <li>Added clarifications to Low and Lowest Page Quality sections to emphasize that the type and level of E-A-T depends on the purpose of the page, and that low quality and harmful pages can occur on any type of website</li> <li>Refactored language throughout to be applicable across all devices types</li> <li>Minor changes throughout (updated screenshots; removed or updated outdated examples and concepts; removed user location when irrelevant; etc.)</li> </ul>
October 2021	<ul> <li>Expanded the definition of the YMYL subcategory 'Groups of people'</li> <li>Refreshed guidance on how to research reputation information for websites and content creators</li> <li>Restructured and updated 'Lowest Page Quality' section; reorganized and refreshed examples to reflect new structure</li> <li>Simplified the definition of 'Upsetting-Offensive' to remove redundancy with Lowest Page Quality section</li> <li>Minor changes throughout (updated screenshots and URLs, wording, and examples for consistency; removed outdated examples; fixed typos; etc.)</li> </ul>