### RELEVANCE of sources

The relevance of information source relates to how useful the source is for your particular practice.

To decide the relevance, you will need to consider some of the following questions:

- What type of audience is the information produced for?
- Is the information specialised enough for your needs?
- Is the information detailed enough for your needs?
- Does the information cover your topic in terms of time and place? (Decide if you need historical information, current information or both; Decide if you need information that is local, regional, national or international.)
- Are the participants and setting described in enough detail to allow for comparisons with your local clients and setting/context? Are the participants in the study sufficiently different from your clients to cause concern? Is your local setting/content likely to differ much from that of the study?

### QUALITY of sources

To decide the quality of information source, you will need to consider questions such as:

- How reliable is the information source?
- How accurate is the information source?
- How recent is the information source?

### Reliability of information

- **Is the author of the information identified?**
  - Merridy Malin & Debra Maidment
- **Does the author of the information have the qualifications or experience to write on this topic?**
  - Refer to the shaded box on the last page titled ‘about authors’
- **Does the information come from an ‘authoritative source’?**
  - the Australia Journal of Indigenous Education
  - Cambridge University Press.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>✓</th>
<th>✓</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Accuracy of information**

*How is the information presented?*
- All information presented as fact is appropriately referenced

*If the information is presented as fact, can it be checked?*
- Complete reference list to check referencing. Easy to determine authors’ opinions from the literature.

*Is the information biased?*
- Unsure. There is no methodology section or data analyses process.

**Timeliness of information (how recent is the information)**

*This article draws on information published in the previous 40 years. This is appropriate given the historical account of Indigenous education discussed in this article.*

*When was the information published?*
- This article was published in 2003, there may have been further developments in this field since this time.*