Test Your Internet Credibility

The majority of US undergraduate students consider the web sites listed below to be factual. The first three sites (which contain extremely obvious and abundant errors) are all fake; they were created as part of an undergraduate general science class unit on evaluating Internet site creditability:

An expose on the great tree octopus found in the American Pacific Northwest:

https://zapatopi.net/treeoctopus/

A discussion of famous explorers:

https://www.allaboutexplorers.com/

A serious study investigating whether or not the chicken or the egg came first:

https://www.ovaprima.org/

A scientifically valid/accurate description of the properties of a chemical, DHMO:

This chemical parody (written in an alarming tone) was initially written for a 1990's era April Fool's Day and subsequently expanded. As a result, more than 20,000 people in California signed a petition to ban the sale, possession, and use of the chemical substance, DHMO. (**DiHydrogen MonO**xide, the rigorous chemical name for H₂O, water).

https://www.dhmo.org/

