Activity 1 – Primary Source Analysis

<http://www.e-classics.com/pericles.htm>

1. Reading through Plutarch’s account of Pericles, do you think he has an unbiased view of Pericles’ rule of Athens? Does he present differing perspectives?
2. Do you think Plutarch’s account is overly dramatic, or is it honest and objective? Does it make a difference to how you view Pericles as an individual?
3. Reading through his primary source, is there anything Plutarch has written about Pericles that you have not come across in other sources? Why do you think it has been left out?
4. How does Plutarch end his account of Pericles? Do you trust Plutarch in his writings of exact words Pericles said on his death bed? Why/why not?
5. Do you think this is an academic article that we can trust to focus only on the facts? Why or why not? (Consider the emotional language)
6. Do you think this is a reliable source? Why/why not? (Consider the lack of ancient/modern sources)
7. Do you think this is a useful source? Why/why not? (Consider what it says about Pericles and the agenda of the author/website)