

Activity – Developing Search Strategies

Part I. Identifying Search Terms

Determine at least four (4) search terms and one possible synonym for each term that you could use to search for resources on the following topic:

The effect of the Internet on plagiarism on college campuses

Search Term 1: _____ Possible Synonym: _____
Search Term 2: _____ Possible Synonym: _____
Search Term 3: _____ Possible Synonym: _____
Search Term 4: _____ Possible Synonym: _____

Any Possible **NOT** Terms? _____

Part II: Using Boolean

Using the search terms and synonyms from Part I, give two examples of terms you could combine with AND, two examples of terms you could combine with OR, and one example of a NOT search

AND Search 1: _____

AND Search 2: _____

OR Search 1: _____

OR Search 2: _____

NOT Search: _____

Part III: Using Wildcard & Truncation Symbols

Look at your search terms from **Part I**. Select one that you could use a wildcard symbol with and then select one that you could truncate (you can utilize the same search term for both examples). Once you've selected your terms, indicate what additional terms you would expect to find with your search. (If using a wildcard or truncation symbol will lead to numerous terms, only indicate 2 or 3 expected terms).

Wildcard Example: _____

Terms expected: _____

Truncation Example: _____

Terms expected: _____

Part IV: Using Built-in Subject Terms

Searching the Catalog. Use your first **AND** search from **Part I** to search the Libraries' Catalog: <http://www.lib.utk.edu/catalog>. Indicate the following information from your search:

1. Which AND search did you use? _____
2. How many results did you find? _____
3. Select one title from your results list that looks like it fits the topic and indicate the title here:
4. Look at the full record for the book and write down the Subjects included with the record: Circle the subject that best fits your search.
5. Click on the link for the subject you circled in #4 and click on the first go button on the new screen that pops up. How many results do you get from this search?

Searching a database. Use the same AND search that you used to search the Catalog to search Academic Search Premier: <http://www.lib.utk.edu/cgi-bin/auth/connect.cgi?primary=397>. Indicate the following information from your search:

1. How many results did you find? _____
2. Select one article from your results list that looks like it fits your topic and indicate the following information for it here:
 - Article Title: _____
 - Author(s): _____
 - Journal/Magazine Title: _____
 - Volume and Issue (if given): _____
 - Year/Date: _____
3. Click on the article title to see the complete record. Are there any Subject Terms listed?
If yes, record the Subject Terms here. If no, go back and try to find another article that has Subject Terms and enter them here.
4. Select one of the Subject Terms that best fits your search and indicate it here:
5. Click on your selected Subject Term. How many results do you get from this search?

