Name: Ben Goldman Date: 9/30/20 Period: 2

WPHS Science Research Program

Learning about Online Databases- Part 1

**SWBAT:** *Learn how to better use different Online Search Engines and databases*

*DUE DATE: Friday October 2nd 11:59pm ALL LEVELS*

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*Step 1.* Decide which 2 different research topics you may want to pursue in the future

* Using each of the following search engines and databases, compare the results after searching for both of your 2 possible topics
* Keep track of which yields the best results (amount of related articles, level of articles)
* When searching, add words such as “research”, “organizations”, “current”, ”and”, ”or”, ”-“
  + - *Ex. “Current Genetics Research”, “Psychological Organizations”*
* Keep track of which “key words” help with finding the best results

*Step 2.* General/Popular Search Engines

* + Test these three general search engines for each topic
    - www.google.com
    - www.yahoo.com
    - https://scholar.google.com/
  + **Record the pros and cons of each search engine in the chart provided**

*Step 3.* Scientific/Scholarly/Professional Databases

* Go to the library page of the school website: <https://wphslibrary.libguides.com/c.php?g=154422>
* Click on the tab for “Online Databases & Research”
* Then click “Click here for Online Databases”
* **Browse each of the following resources and complete the comparison chart below.**

*Login information: Username: whiteplainshs Password: wphs*

* + - Academic OneFile (Gale OneFile)
    - Academic OneFile Select (Gale OneFile)
    - General OneFile (Gale)
    - Health & Medicine (Gale OneFile)
    - JSTOR *(Username: whiteplains Password: tigers)*
    - Proquest (Multiple Databases)
    - ScienceDirect
    - Choose two additional databases not listed above
      * + Spanish speakers may wish to browse “Informe Academico”

*Step 4.* Be prepared to share your findings with the class verbally

* Be able to give your classmates some “concrete” ideas for which search engines to use with which topics.
* Be able to share with your classmates which “key words” to use and how to most effectively use them to help narrow down a search with the different search engines.

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| *Search Engine or Database* | *Pros* | *Cons* |
| **Google** | Wide range of sources  Images  Advanced search tools  Lots of brief information | Not all academic  Hard to control recentness  Ads |
| **Yahoo** | Similar to google  Images  Advanced search tools  Lots of brief information | Not all academic  Hard to control recentness  Ads |
| **Google Scholar** | Only journal articles  Filter by date  Citation tool has bibtex  Pdf access  Includes synonyms | Takes longer |
| **Academic OneFile (Gale OneFile)** | Access to very large database  Advanced search tools  No fees | some results were not relevant |
| **Academic OneFile Select**  **(Gale OneFile)** | Much more relevant results  All journal articles  No fees | Some are not open access  No bibtex citations |
| **General OneFile (Gale)** | Large database | Many quite irrelevant results  General interest/magazine articles  Few journal articles |
| **Health & Medicine (Gale OneFile)** | Might be useful if I studied health or medicine | Few articles relevant to my topic  I am not studying health or medicine |

Learning about Online Databases

Research topics you used to compare the sites

1)\_\_\_\_ENSO Intensity 2)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Climate variability\_\_

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| --- | --- | --- |
| *Search Engine or Database* | *Pros* | *Cons* |
| **JSTOR** | Lots of relevant articles  Easy access to pdfs  Has BIBTEX!!!  Good citation tool | Need to log in |
| **Proquest**  **(Multiple Databases)** | Large database, many journals | Not all articles are open access  A few irrelevant articles (despite specific search terms)  Citation tool seems broken |
| **ScienceDirect** | Open access for full pdf | Only Elsevier journals |
| Name of database:  Directory of open access journals | All free  Large database | Some irrelevant articles  No citation generator  Only open access journals |
| Name of database:  CORE | All free  Larger than DOAJ  Good website  Interesting data API for meta analysis | No citation helper  Only open access journals |