

# How our SHS students can Find and Download Public Domain Books from Google Book Search

Google Book Search is a very useful tool for finding books according to keyword search. The Google database contains a massive library of scanned books. Our students can also use Google Book Search to find and download books in the public domain.

Only books in the public domain can be downloaded. Books with intact copyright are available only for preview. The amount of book that can be previewed varies from citation only to the entire book, depending on the agreement Google has with the publisher.

**Level of Difficulty:** Easy

**Time Required:** Two minutes or less

Here's how our students can do it:

1. They can go to Google Book Search. <http://books.google.com>.
  2. They should select the "Advanced Book Search" link.
  3. Under **Search:** they can choose the radio button marked **Full view only**. This doesn't guarantee they'll find a public domain book, but it significantly improves their chances.
  4. They can enter a search phrase. The search phrase can be one or many words, and it can be the name of authors, keywords within a book, or keywords from the title of a book. They'll increase their chances if they enter their search phrase in the "with at least one of the words" box.
  5. They can press the "Google Search" button.
  6. The results page appears with a list of books that they can view. They will be able to click on a book to look inside that book.
  7. Some of these books may still be under copyright. If the book is public domain, they will see a Download button on the right side of the browser window.
  8. They can click on the Download button to download a PDF of the book.
  9. They may read the book on their desktops or print it.
- Google Book Search is on the Web at <http://books.google.com>.

What they need?

A Computer Connected to the Internet

A Web Browser

Adobe Acrobat Reader

They can download as a PDF file most of the High School classics like:

\*Aesop's *"Fables"*

\* Shakespeare's *"Hamlet"*

\* Dante's *"Inferno"*