Internet Concepts with HTML

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Section CIS – 145 – 101

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**Searching the Web**

Growing up in the Internet, I usually learned to use the AltaVista search engine a long time ago. I came to use Google when it became popular but I was still loyal to AltaVista. I felt that I could find information about anything. That is the kind of power you feel using one of these engines. In present time, I only use Google.

I have to say that in this chapter I got informed for the first time about all the power behind search engines. I did not know that you could use conditional operators to search topics. I did learn about Boolean logical operators in the past but never thought that they could be used for search. I also came across that I have been using natural language query without knowing that a proper term about it existed.

One of the most interesting parts for me on this chapter, is the basic understanding of how search engines work. I did not know that search engines kept a database of URLs, and that it continually kept searching the web to keep updated content. It really does makes me feel good to have this type of knowledge and that I can explain it. I literally thought that search engines looked through web sites at the moment you hit the search button. I never thought they were retrieved from a database.

Another topic that added to my knowledge was getting to know for the first time about alternative web search tools. I did not know before about directories and bibliographies; I did see clustering in the past but I would have never call it by its name.

Meta search engine was also interesting; this is something I can start using going forward. Now I can understand why sometimes search engines don’t give me the specific result of what I’m looking for. I wonder if a similar type of queries is used in a web site like Amazon.com when you are looking for a purchase. Many times I type for a product in the search box, and it returns items that are somewhat related to the one I’m looking for.