**research paper Assignment: Database Research**

**50 points**

**Computer databases vary in size, and I bet you'd be surprised to find out that some of them are very large. So, here's your assignment:**

1. **Visit each of the Web sites listed below and read about the online databases.**
2. **Write a short summary about the database including what type of records are in it, what the database is used for and how many records are in it.**
3. **Find three more sites that have online databases\* and do steps 1 and 2 for each.**

**Your assignment will be graded according to the writing rubric found in the Course Orientation.**

**The sites to visit:**

***The National Archive*, *American Library* collection**[**http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/index.html**](http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/index.html)

***The Library of Congress* online catalog**[**http://catalog.loc.gov/help/contents.htm**](http://catalog.loc.gov/help/contents.htm)

**These databases are large collections of data, but you don't have to find such large ones when doing your own research. They just have to be databases you find online and can search—and you have to find out how many records are in the database.**

1. The first website holds records about “exceptional primary records” of American History, and that highlight the information from the library of Congress. Types of records include “African American History,” “Architecture Landscape,” “Culture, Folklife,” “Government, Law,” “Religion,” and war and military topics, among others. This database of historical records also contains media, such as films, and snippets from the past, like periodicals and personal life stories such as stories of survival on the prairie.
2. The second website exhibits the records of the Library of Congress, which contains 13.2 million, nearly 14 million, records “representing books, serials, computer files, manuscripts, cartographic materials, music, sound recordings, and visual materials” between 1898 to 1980. For example, it contains records about old and present languages, such as Yiddish, Arabic, Persian, Hebrew, Chinese, Japanese, and Korean.
3. The website’s purpose is to allow people to search the Ontario public records, which include “55,000 databases” about ”property, criminal, court, birth, death, marriage, divorce records, licenses, deeds, mortgages, corporate records,” and “business registration” records. For example, there are birth and baptism records during 1779-1899, census records, information about cities and towns, commercial carriers, drivers, environmental businesses, and interior designers.” [**http://publicrecords.searchsystems.net/**](http://publicrecords.searchsystems.net/)
4. This website’s purpose is to store records about Ontario’s history, lives of its people, and its government work. These records are stored in a variety of forms: “from textual records to film, photographs, maps and drawings.” There are hundred million records of “birth, marriage, divorce, death, and census records,” more that one billion records of family trees, more than “4.6 billion names” in their genealogy databases, as well as “360 million UK vital records.”

Examples of records include: Government Records, created by the Ontario government, and which contain legal and political information. Private sector records note the information of “2,600 private individuals, businesses, clubs and associations, labour and political organizations.” Further, the Art Collection holds 2,500 pieces of art made by Ontario people, which include paintings, sculptures, and “antique furnishings.”

[**http://www.archives.gov.on.ca/en/about/overview.aspx**](http://www.archives.gov.on.ca/en/about/overview.aspx)

[**http://www.familylink.com/ppc/?ss=public%20records&pagename=ppcg&eng=ga&ft=1&camp=fsVitRec\_CA-pm&adgp=Gen-Civ&d=7&gclid=COel\_ZCUhbsCFetAMgodzmwAGQ**](http://www.familylink.com/ppc/?ss=public%20records&pagename=ppcg&eng=ga&ft=1&camp=fsVitRec_CA-pm&adgp=Gen-Civ&d=7&gclid=COel_ZCUhbsCFetAMgodzmwAGQ)

1. This website, called the Ontario GenWeb project, makes it its purpose to present genealogic information from different areas of Ontario, for people to research. Examples include birth records, adoption information, census, epidemical, death records, records about religion, as well as black history, military, mental health, and emigration records from before 1791 to the near present 2009.

[**http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~canon/research-topic-births.html**](http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~canon/research-topic-births.html)