

Find what you are looking for: A guide to Internet Research



The Internet is wonderful source for finding information. However, everyday more and more information is put on it. Because of this, finding exactly what information you need can get difficult. Here are some tips on finding information quickly on the Internet.



Search engines

Use a search engine to search through the millions of webpages on the Internet. You put in the keywords related to your topic or question and the engine will give you a list of webpages that contain the keywords that you are looking for with a short description of what is in the webpage. Read the description of the page to see if it might match what you are looking for and link to it in order to find your information. One of the best search engines to use is <http://www.google.com>.

1. What search engines do you use when you search the internet in your native language? _____

2. How do you decide which words to use when you search for information?

Keywords

The problem with search engines is that they search EVERYTHING on the Internet, so if you are not specific enough, you could get a list of thousands of pages. No one has time to read through thousands of pages! That is why, before you begin to search for the information you need, you should identify ALL of the keywords related to your topic. This will help you to find **exactly** the information you need more quickly.

You can identify your keywords by looking at the question you need answered and crossing out the unnecessary words. The words left over are your keywords.

Example: *What is the tallest building in the world?*

Cross out the unnecessary words in this question.

The words that you have NOT crossed out are your keywords.

The keywords in the sentence above are: _____, _____, and _____.

Now think of at least one common synonym, or very closely related word, for each of these words. These can also be keywords.

Keywords: tallest (), building (), world ()

You will need these synonyms in case your first set of keywords doesn't get you to the information you need. With your synonyms, you have a more complete list of keywords to help you begin your research.

Write out a question you want to find the answer to and cross out the unnecessary words:

Make a list of the keywords from your question and their synonyms:
KEYWORDS:

Now use a search engine to find the answer to your question.

The answer to my question is:

Name_____Date_____Team_____Class_____

Internet Scavenger Hunt



Now it's time to show what you've learned. Search the Internet for the answers to the questions below. Remember that the answers to the questions may not be on the first page of the website. You may need to try other links on the first page that you see on the site.

1. What is the street address of the Flushing International High School?
2. Who is the new Chancellor (leader) of schools in New York City?
3. What city and state is Duke University located in?
4. IRC is a non-profit organization in New York City. Find out what the initials "IRC" stand for.
5. Who is the CEO (Chief Executive Officer) of Coca Cola?
6. Who are the two United States Senators from New York State?
7. What is the current population of New York City?
8. When is Women's History month?

9. What is the headline on the front page of today's New York Times?

10. Who was the 9th president of the United States?