

Section 2 – Using Search Engines

Students Watch Video

WATCH

Link 2 - Why isn't Google always the answer to a search?

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N39mnu1Pkgw&safety_mode=true&persist_safety_mode=1&safe=active

TEACHER AND STUDENT – Use handout to for a discussion on the kinds of search engines and databases to use to find specific kinds of information.

I need help to define my topic...

I need a topic	Clusty.com to brainstorm using clusters Social issues browse hot topics and pro/con links Google directory subject tree
I need to investigate alternatives or related topics	BING use related clusters Clusty use related clusters
In need to refine and narrow my topic	Ask.com use “narrow your search” Surfwax use focus to id similar, broader, narrow topics

I need to find quality results...

Authoritative sites chosen by an expert	Librarians' Internet Index search by database or subject Virtual LRC click on subject, then search by terms Google Scholar Blue Web'n teacher edited websites now Ask Scott Librarian edited research portal
Primary sources	American Memory Library of Congress Project Ready, 'Net, Go! Worldwide archival index Calisphere California Primary documents

I need to do research in a specific discipline...

Government	USA.gov “Government made easy.” USA only Other Gov't publications Directgov UK government data/info/research CIA Factbook facts for geography and govt
Science, engineering, technology	Scirus Web portal of web/databases for science related topics only Nat'l Science Digital Library National Science Foundation (NSF)'s online library of resources for science, technology, engineering, and mathematics education and research. Intute UK administered website for education and research topics (...ac.uk indicates UK education domain)
Health and life sciences	Fealth Search engine for health topics only NIH.gov USA gov't website on health topics
Arts and humanities	Intute Stanford encyclopedia academic web portal for philosophy including behaviorism, Aristotle, Plato and others

The timeliness of information that I need is...

Today	Google news updated every 15 minutes RSS feeds to igoogle or netvibes Newsnow
Recent	Yahoo news World news network
Historical	American memory lii.org digital history

I need a specific type of media...

Maps	Google maps Mapmachine American factfinder maps
Fine art	Artcyclopedia Intute : arts and humanities subject Art image browser managed by University of Michigan
Speeches	American rhetoric managed by University of Texas History and politics out loud managed by Northwestern University American memory Your local library
Quotations	Bartleby Quotations page watch out for pop-ups Quoteland Your local library
Dictionary/thesaurus	Yahoo reference Wordcentral Your local library

Some of the best search engines are not yahoo and google, then again some are just awful.

BEST	WORST
Clusty.com	Msdewey.com (too animated, too narrow)
Dmoz.org	Goodsearch.com (too narrow)
Altavista.com	
Dogpile.com	
Sweetsearch.com	

Different types of research sources included databases and are not search engines:

Calisphere	Database operated by UC Berkeley
Librarians' Internet Index	Database of websites chosen by librarians
BlueWeb'n – now known as Knowledge Network Explorer	Database collection of teacher chosen websites
Infomine	Database of scholarly journals, research and primary sources