

Name

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## ENGLISH 1302: LIBRARY EXERCISE

### Author search

◆ Search the Oveta Culp Hobby Memorial Library's online catalog for a book by **John Updike** (Choose "author" in the drop-down menu to the right of the search box, and type author's last name first in the search box.)

Write the titles and call numbers of the books you found:

2. How many copies of the novel *S* are available? \_\_\_\_\_

The online card for *S* has a link titled "Review" on the right-hand side of the online result. Click on "Review." This action will pull up an online card on the novel. At the top of the card is a link titled "A Look Inside." Click on this link. Briefly describe what "A Look Inside" contains.

◆ Go back to the search page, and do an author search on **Walker, Alice**.

1. How many results does this search provide? \_\_\_\_\_

Are all the results works by Alice Walker? \_\_\_\_\_

Sometimes there are errors online. You must be a careful and diligent researcher, and remain patient in your research. (Remain patient you will.)

2. Find the result *Warrior Marks : Female Genital Mutilation and the Sexual Blinding of Women*, and click on "Details." A page with more information will come up. On the left, under the photo of the book, click on the link "Find more on these topics."

How many results do you find on the topic Walker's book addresses? \_\_\_\_\_

Which result is a videocassette? Write the title below.

### **Subject and Word Searches**

◆ Using the words *apartheid, South Africa*, do a subject search in the library's online catalogue.

1. How many results does this search provide? \_\_\_\_\_
2. How many of the results are electronic resources whose contents you can access online? \_\_\_\_\_
3. How many of these sources were published AFTER the first all-race elections in South Africa in 1994? \_\_\_\_\_

◆ Now do a word or phrase search using the words *apartheid, South Africa*. How many results does this search provide? \_\_\_\_\_

◆ Do a subject search using the words *post-traumatic stress disorder*.

1. How many library holdings does that search reveal? \_\_\_\_\_
2. Now do a word or phrase search using the word *post-traumatic stress disorder*.
3. How many results does the word or phrase search provide? \_\_\_\_\_
4. Of the results you found with the word or phrase search, which ones do you think would be the best sources for research examining the effects of post-traumatic stress disorder on Vietnam veterans and their families? List the titles below with their call numbers. (Don't just rely on the titles of the books to answer this question. Look at the details provided in the summaries and reviews that are available.)

5. Of the results you found with the word or phrase search, are any of the results not available at this time? \_\_\_\_\_ If so, which one(s)?

◆ Do a subject search using the words *symptoms of dying*.

1. What is the result of this search?

2. Now do a word or phrase search using the words *symptoms of dying*. What is the result of this search?

3. On the online library card of the source you found with the word or phrase search above, click on the link to the left titled "Find More on These Topics." How many results does this search provide? \_\_\_\_\_

**Note how a word search can yield different results than a subject search. Also try a multiple of searches when looking for information. Use different terms and different searches to yield the best results. Look for words within the titles provided by previous searches that you might use as words in a new search (such as the term "palliative care," which should have come up in the titles of books when you did the last search above).**

◆ Do a word or phrase search using these words: *gas use in World War I*. This search should provide no close matches, but look at the list of closest matches that is provided. Near the bottom of the list is this match: GASES ASPHYXIATING AND POISONOUS WAR USE. It comes close to your subject, so click on that phrase.

1. Write the name, author, and call number of the source that comes up.

2. On the online card catalogue of the source that is provided by the search above, click on "Find More on these topics." How many results do you get from this action?

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**DATABASES: Searching *Academic Search Premier***

◆ Go to the *Academic Search Premier* database and use the words *arranged marriages AND India* to search, using the "default fields."

1. How many titles does this search pull up? \_\_\_\_\_

2. By limiting your search to FULL TEXT, how many titles does the search pull up?

\_\_\_\_\_

3. List a source that discusses how Western ideas of love have affected arranged marriages in places such as India and China. List author's name, title of article, publication, and date of publication.

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4. Limiting the search to FULL TEXT and SCHOLARLY JOURNALS results in a list of how many titles? \_\_\_\_\_
5. List here the information (authors' names, title, publication, date of publication) the article that compares arranged marriages with marriages of choice.

◆ Do a default search in *Academic Search Premier*, using the words ***skin color and African Americans***.

1. How many results do you get with no limiters? \_\_\_\_\_
2. How many results do you get if you limit the publication type to newspaper? \_\_\_\_\_
3. How many results do you get if you limit your search to periodical? \_\_\_\_\_
4. How many results do you get if you limit your search to scholarly (peer-reviewed) journals? \_\_\_\_\_
5. How many results do you get if you limit your search to ALL publications but FULL-TEXT availability? \_\_\_\_\_
6. Your search in #5 above should have called up a list with this source included: "Color Differences in the Socioeconomic Status of African American Men: Results of a Longitudinal Study" by Mark E. Hill. Click on that source to pull up more information. (If this publication is not listed in the list, then do an author or a title search to get a full-text copy of this article.)

Is the journal in which this article is published (*Social Forces*, June 2000) available in the Oveta Culp Hobby Memorial Library at CTC? \_\_\_\_\_

***Scan the abstract to the article and answer the following questions:***

a. According to the study, how does color difference influence the socioeconomic status of African American Men?

b. How did the 1920 childhood census records classify African Americans?

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c. In the "Discussion" section of this article, the author describes previous studies that sought to discover how color differences were internalized in African Americans. That is, the researchers wanted to know if African Americans had

biases against African Americans with darker skin tones. List some of the researchers (and the titles of their articles) that this writer includes in his discussion.

**Note:** If you were writing an essay exploring the effects of skin color among African-Americans, these sources might be useful. Thus, you could expand your research by looking up these sources.

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### Evaluating Web Sources

Let's say you did a phrase search on Google, using the phrase "chemical warfare in World War I," and your search brings up these sources listed below:

- ◆ *The Great War and the Shaping of the Twentieth Century* at <http://www.pbs.org/greatwar/>--an eight-part PBS series, co-produced by "KCET/Los Angeles and the BBC, in association with England's London-based Imperial War Museum" You can go to this web site to get more information: <http://www.pbs.org/greatwar/about/index.html>)
- ◆ "Weapons of War" on the *First World War.com* web page (Mike Duffy, site editor), which contains a large database of information on WWI. See <http://www.firstworldwar.com/index.htm>
- ◆ "Chemical Warfare," on *Wikipedia: The Free Encyclopedia*, at [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chemical\\_warfare](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chemical_warfare)
- ◆ "World War I," on the *Answers.com* website, at <http://www.answers.com/topic/world-war-i>

Which of these web sites do you think would be MOST acceptable as a source for an academic essay in which general sources are allowed?

Which would be LEAST acceptable?

Why?

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