

Keyword Worksheet

Through the Logue Library catalog - bit.ly/catkeylog - you have access to millions of books, as well as articles from magazines, newspapers, and journals. All with just the click of a mouse!

This worksheet will help you narrow your research topic and create a set of keywords to use when searching.

Why use the library's databases?

- Trusted information from published books, newspapers, magazines, and journals.
- Free access for students, faculty, and staff!
- Just doing a Google search will not always bring up the scholarly information you need!

Thinking About Your Topic

Your topic is the sum of its parts: It is made up of what you need to know to write your paper or prepare your presentation - places, people, times, locations, events, the relationships, opinions, experiment, results, statistics, the history, etc...

What is the main topic you are researching?

Example: What is the effect of pollution on global warming?

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How do you narrow it down?

List some of the small pieces that make up your topic. Example: pollution, global warming, effect

What are some keywords, phrases, synonyms, or concepts that might help you find information?

Examples: global warming, climate change, pollution, air pollution, greenhouse gases, carbon dioxide, emissions, sustainability, renewable energy, implication, effect

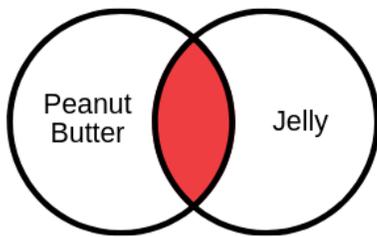
Putting Keywords Together

Use Boolean Operators (AND/OR/NOT) to broaden or narrow your search.

- AND--will narrow a search: This tells the search engine to only return records with ALL search terms.
- OR--will broaden a search: This tells the search engine to return records that contain any of the terms OR both of the terms.
- NOT--will narrow a search: This tells the search engine to only return records WITHOUT certain keywords.

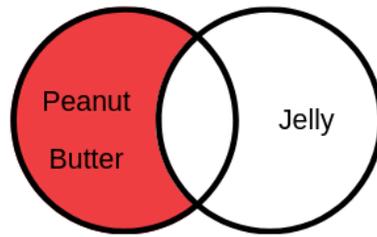
Other search tips:

- Use quotes " " to keep words together as a phrase ("learning disabilities")
- Use the asterisk * to find alternate endings to words (child* would retrieve child, children, children's, childhood, etc.)



AND

Results with
Peanut Butter
AND Jelly

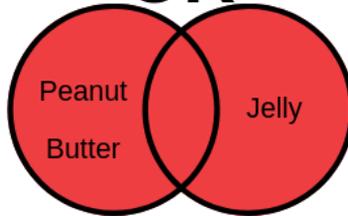


NOT

Results with
Peanut Butter,
but not Jelly or
Peanut Butter
AND Jelly

Results
with Peanut
Butter, Jelly
OR both

OR



Sample searches using examples

Advanced Search

Search Index	Search Term
Keyword	"climate change"

Operator	Search Index	Search Term
NOT	Keyword	"global warming"

Operator	Search Index	Search Term
AND	Keyword	sustainab*

+ Add row

Clear Search

Advanced Search

Search Index	Search Term
Keyword	"climate change"

Operator	Search Index	Search Term
OR	Keyword	"global warming"

Operator	Search Index	Search Term
AND	Keyword	effects

+ Add row

Clear Search

Questions?

Contact Kelly Liberona, Librarian | Reference Room, Logue Library
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