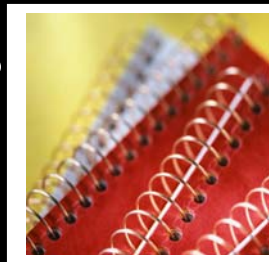


Identifying Research Resources



A Research & Library Skills Exercise ♦ 2011-2012
www.lib.umd.edu/UES/engl101/exercises.html

Instructor's Name: _____ ENGL 101 Section: _____ Class Meeting Time: _____

Your Name: _____ Date: _____

Why is choosing an appropriate research source important?

In order to find information to support your argument and write a good paper you will need to look in a variety of places. These places might include the Libraries' Catalog, a database, a credible website, etc. For example, if you are writing a paper about the advancement of women's rights in China, you might begin by searching the Catalog to find background information in books. If you want information about women's rights in China published this week, you will need to find a more current source; online newspapers and newspaper databases would both have current information. Your instructors will also require you to use academic articles, which are in many databases, including Academic Search Premier.

The Exercise:

Using themes raised in this year's First Year Book, *The Immoral Life of Henrietta Lacks* by Rebecca Skloot, consider the place you would look for the following types of information. Use the information found on this web guide to help you complete the chart below: www.lib.umd.edu/UES/resources.html

There may be more than one correct answer for each space:

Your information need:	Type of source: Which research resource(s) would you use?
Current issues in medical ethics.	<i>Newspaper web sites e.g., Washingtonpost.com</i> <i>Academic Search Premier</i> <i>LexisNexis Academic</i>
Background information about the relationship of African Americans and medical research in the US.	
Other work published by Rebecca Skloot.	
Scholarly research about the impact of the HeLa cell line on medical research.	

Identify each statement as either T (true) or F (false):

1. _____ Articles that you identify in a database will always be available in full text online.
2. _____ When you find a book using the Libraries' Catalog, the record will tell you where the book is located in the library, and whether it is on the shelf or has been borrowed.
3. _____ Using a journal database (those found in Research Port) is like using Google — the information is freely available to anyone with a computer and Internet connection.
4. _____ To find a magazine article you should search the Libraries' Catalog to identify a relevant article for the topic.
5. _____ An abstract, usually included in a database, is a summary of an article.