Worksheet: Comparing LION OneSearch & Google

Part 1: Search for Information in a Library Database

LION OneSearch is a great tool for beginning your research (though not necessarily your last stop). It searches for articles from most of Albright Library’s databases all at once. This means you may vary various types of sources, depending on your search terms and strategy (e.g., books, scholarly articles, newspapers and magazines).

As you evaluate each source’s relevance, consider its audience and purpose.

To get to OneSearch:
- Open a Web browser and go to Library.albright.edu
- Click on LION Onesearch, located in the middle of the page.

Exercise:
1. Enter a search term in the Search box: “Erica Jong”
2. Select Search
   a. How many results do you see? ___________________
   b. What kinds of results do you see? (Generally avoid using long strings of words; selective use of a few keywords usually improves search results.)

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3. Click on Advanced Search and add the additional search term: “feminism”
   a. How does that change the results? ___________________

4. Explore limit options. Using the left sidebar, Find a PEER REVIEWED article that appears especially relevant to your topic by selecting Scholarly (Peer Reviewed) Journals and follow the links for PDF full text.

Answer the following:
   a. Who is the author? ____________________________
   b. What is the article title? ________________________
   c. Publication? _________________________________
   d. What happens when you De-select Scholarly (Peer Reviewed) Journals and limit to Catalog (cataLION) Only?

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Part 2: Search for Information on the Web

In order to put your results into a broader context, search for information on the Web:

- Point your Web browser to [www.google.com](http://www.google.com)
- Try the same search you did in OneSearch
- Consider how the information retrieved from Google might be used as further evidence in your information investigation.

Choose a result:
Find a web source that appears especially relevant to your topic. Answer the following questions:

URL: __________________________________________________________

Does the site have an author? If yes, who? __________________________

What do you know about this person/publisher? ______________________

Who is the intended audience? How can you tell? _____________________

State briefly how you might use this source to strengthen your presentation. (Your answers to some of the previous questions about the source may help with considering this.)

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Part 3: Think and Evaluate

1. How does the information found through Google compare with that retrieved from the library’s OneSearch?

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2. Describe 1-2 differences and 1-2 similarities between the type of information you located through OneSearch and the information found through Google. Do these differences suggest anything about how to use library database or Google for your academic work?

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