



Your topic: _____

A. Specialized Encyclopedias (Print)

Step 1. Go to the Reference Collection. Use the **Library of Congress Classification Poster** to find 2 LC call numbers relevant to your topic. (Think broad! What college department covers this topic?)

Code: _____ Subject: _____

Code: _____ Subject: _____

Step 2. Browse the Reference shelves to find an encyclopedia article relevant to your topic.

Title of article:

Title of encyclopedia:

B. Circulating Books – Print & Electronic

Step 1. Search *CougarCat* by **keyword** for items on your topic.
(Poor results? Try a synonym or *broader* term. Check for useful **subject headings** and try them.)

Keyword search term(s): _____ # Hits: _____

Pick an available *circulating book* Call Number: _____
Title: _____

Select an *e-book* and follow the links to view it in *NetLibrary*. Call Number: _____
Title: _____

Step 2. Try going to *NetLibrary* directly: www.netlibrary.com

Use the “Create a Free Account” link to **register**. This lets you access our e-books from off-campus.

Go to the “Reference Center” and find an electronic reference book relevant to your subject.

Title: _____

Go back to *NetLibrary*’s “Basic Search” screen and find another e-book relevant to your topic.

Title: _____

C. Journal & Magazine Articles

Step 1. Search *Academic Search Premier* for your topic. Use *and*, *or*, and *truncation* (*) as needed. (Remember that EBSCO indexes will search your terms *as a phrase* by default.)
Work with your search statement to get a result list of at least 50-100 items.

Keyword search: _____ # Hits: _____

Use "Refine Search" to select only easily available items (**CCC Library** or **full-text**). # hits: _____

Now limit this search to articles which are *more than a page* long (>1). # hits: _____

How many of the remaining items are from **academic journals** ? _____ From **magazines**? _____

Step 2. Select an article and view it, either in full-text on the computer or from the *Periodicals* shelves.

Article Title:

Source publication title:

Issue / Date:

The article is from a: _____ magazine _____ journal

How can you tell?

D. Websites

Step 1. From the Library's home page, choose *Research Gateway >> Search the Web*.
Select a search engine and search it (or use its directory) for items on your topic.

Search engine: _____

Search statement (or path, if you use the directory): _____

Step 2. Find a webpage with *actual information* (not just more links) on your topic.
Describe the information. (Is it a published article, a hobbyist's compilation, a statement of informed - or uninformed - opinion, a published work now out of copyright, educational or promotional material from an organization, a government report, another student's term paper...?)