

SEARCH STRATEGY WORKSHEET

Describe your research question:

AND

AND

Identify main concepts:

Concept #3

Concept #1

Concept #2

AND

Find synonyms:

Use appropriate sources to identify synonyms. Synonyms, related and alternate spelling should be placed in the same CONCEPT column.

OR

OR

OR

Concept #1

or

or

or

or

or

Concept #2

or

or

or

or

or

Concept #3

or

or

or

or

or

AND AND

Search limits:

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Languages \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Publication types

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Publication dates \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Geographical limitations

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Target populations \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Other

Boolean operators:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **AND** | **OR** | **NOT** |
| -limit searches  -combine searches | - expand searches  -similar topics or synonyms | -omit a term |
| gender AND fiction  Shakespeare AND women | woman OR female  parent OR mother OR father | rural NOT united states |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **truncation and wildcard: \* ?** | **phrase searches: ( ) “ ”** |
| search multiple variations of the same root | search for all the words in that order |
| elect\* = elect, elects, elected, election...  wom?n = woman, women | “catcher in the rye”  (catcher in the rye) |