

OSLIS

**School Library Information System**

**Information Skills Pretest (Middle School)**

Record your choice for the best answer on the answer sheet.

1. A SEARCH ENGINE is best described as
   1. a device that allows the computer to be connected to a phone line
   2. a Web site or software that offers searching capabilities
   3. the brains of a personal computer
   4. an electronic "booster" you can install for quicker searchers
2. When using information from a Web site for school projects, a good question to ask yourself is
   1. "Can I order products from this site?"
   2. "Are these pictures/graphs/charts colorful enough?
   3. "Is all the spelling and grammar correct in this text?"
   4. "Who is the author of this information and is it accurate?"
3. When searching the Internet, each underlined word or phrase is usually
   1. a standard command
   2. a keyword search
   3. a subject search
   4. a link to another file or site
4. Information that you find on the Internet
   1. is far more reliable than books and magazines
   2. is factual because the Internet is constantly monitored by world educational organizations
   3. is required by law to be accurate, timely, and appropriate
   4. comes from many varied sources such as business, the government, or private citizens
5. A good Internet research project begins by
   1. asking yourself interesting questions about your topic and using those questions as a basis for your search
   2. taking 20 or 30 minutes to surf the Web and get comfortable with lots of particular Web sites
   3. checking out as many sites as possible and jotting down the addresses for future reference
   4. locating a chat room that is using your topic as the subject of the discussion
6. If you decide to use information from a Web site for your research project
   1. it is too hard to find the source of the information
   2. you may use the text word-for-word in your report because most Web site authors are not known
   3. you must properly cite your source
   4. you may assume that all of your data or text is factual
7. An example of a biased Web site would be
   1. a drug company promoting a particular drug
   2. a national news site giving weather reports
   3. a college library allowing access to its reference material
   4. an airline listing future flights for advance reservations
8. An effective way to search the Web is to
   1. refer to "Bookmarks" for pre-tagged sites
   2. use the pre-selected links or the OSLIS Web site to go to good sites
   3. use a directory or search engine like Yahoo, Alta Vista, or Lycos
   4. all of the above
9. A KEYWORD search will
   1. search only titles
   2. work even if you spell a word wrong
   3. search title, contents, and subject areas
   4. search reference material only
10. The difference between an abstract and the full text of an article is
    1. a complete, full-text reading of an article
    2. a short, objective summary of an article
    3. a list of information needed to locate a magazine, such as publication date, volume, and author
    4. a printout containing critical reviews of the article
11. A magazine CITATION will usually show you
    1. summaries of current non-fiction books
    2. choice of subject or keyword search
    3. information to help you retrieve magazine articles
    4. full-text listing of a magazine article
12. When entering words or phrases in the computer to search for articles or books, the most important rule to remember is
    1. use correct spelling. It does affect the searches
    2. use capital letters only
    3. always use a person's first name first, and last name last
    4. never use any punctuation
13. If you are unable to locate information on your topic, you may be using the wrong subject heading. A good way to proceed would be to
    1. give up and change your whole topic, then try again
    2. use synonyms, or words that mean the same thing as your topic
    3. stick with very broad terms and ideas
    4. try another computer
14. A SUBJECT SEARCH approach is a good choice when
    1. you're not sure how to spell the topic
    2. you're not sure what specific part of the topic you want to focus on
    3. your teacher has assigned a general subject as a topic and wants each student to narrow it down
    4. all of the above
15. BIBLIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION usually includes all of the following EXCEPT
    1. summary
    2. title
    3. author
    4. date
    5. pages
16. Which is potentially the most current or up-to-date source of information on any topic?
    1. an article from a CD-ROM database
    2. an article on microfiche
    3. a reference book
    4. a hard copy of a magazine
    5. an article or information from a World Wide Web site
17. LOGICAL OPERATORS usually include all of the following terms EXCEPT
    1. and
    2. maybe
    3. or
    4. not
18. DATABASE is superior to a search engine because
    1. The authority and sources have gone through some evaluation process.
    2. It is organized by both human and electronic brain power.
    3. The text comes from verifiable and reputable sources.
    4. All of the above.

Test questions created by Gail Withers and Mary McClintock, Douglas County, Oregon 3/98

OSLIS EVALUATION FORM: Baseline for Outcome #3