



# Database Guide: Library and Information Science Abstracts (LISA)

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## Database Guide: Library and Information Science Abstracts (LISA)

### What is Library and Information Science Abstracts (LISA)?

LISA is an international abstracting and indexing service designed for library professionals and other information specialists. LISA provides bibliographic information about past and present developments in librarianship, information science, online retrieval, publishing and information technology. This database covers around five hundred periodicals from over sixty countries. It also includes unpublished academic and institutional research from the *IRWI - Information Research Watch International* database.

### Subject Coverage

Library management	E-learning	The semantic web
Collection development	Knowledge management	Scholarly communication
Cataloguing and classification	Information literacy	Open access
Library technology	Freedom of information	Digital preservation
Information retrieval	Electronic publishing	Search engines
Digital libraries	E-government	Social inclusion
Evidence based librarianship	Taxonomies and ontologies	E-commerce
Copyright	Digital rights management	Consumer health information
Intelligence and national security	Professional development	

### Selection Policy

LISA has an international perspective, and a diverse audience including researchers, students, library staff, and information professionals. Since its inception in 1969 LISA has been interested in a broad range of library and information science (LIS) theory and practice, now taking in developments facilitated by information and communications technology and LIS-related fields such as archives, records management, publishing, information design and technical writing. Consequently, LISA covers a great variety of publications.

In considering candidate journals at the scholarly end, the editor takes account of a range of standard criteria, eg publishing standards, timeliness, editorial content, peer review, international diversity of authorship and citation data. The editor also needs to have an eye for current trends and growth points within the field - at the moment, for example, in developments in Web-based distance education and electronic government. LISA is also interested in important but more topically-oriented journals and magazines, such as the CILIP "Update" in the UK or "Biblioteche Oggi" in Italy, and in smaller, more limited publications which deal with specialist areas of interest to the library community (eg "The One Person Library").

There are around 500 titles on Illumina, 26 of which are e-journals.



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For most of these journals, all articles are indexed and abstracted, but for a few fringe titles, the editor selects only those relevant to the information community.

Around one third of current journals are published in the UK another third in the USA. The rest come from a variety of countries including 14 titles from Germany, 12 from Japan, 6 from South Africa, 5 from France, 4 from India.

For a complete current serials source list please go to:

<http://www.csa.com/factsheets/supplements/lisa.php>

### Sample Record:

<b>Database</b>	LISA: Library and Information Science Abstracts
<b>Title</b>	<b>Privacy in the Age of the Social Web</b>
<b>Author</b>	<a href="#">Notess, Greg A.</a>
<b>Affiliation</b>	Montana State University
<b>Email Address</b>	<a href="mailto:greg@notess.com">greg@notess.com</a>
<b>Source</b>	Online, vol. 33, no. 4, pp. 41-43, July-Aug 2009
<b>ISSN</b>	0146-5422
<b>Descriptors</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Privacy <input type="checkbox"/> Social networks <input type="checkbox"/> Internet
<b>New Search Using Marked Terms:</b>	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Use AND to narrow <input type="radio"/> Use OR to broaden
<b>Add to Current Search:</b>	<input type="radio"/> Use AND to narrow <input type="radio"/> Use OR to broaden <input type="button" value="Go"/>
<b>Abstract</b>	Although the Internet provides new ways for sharing information, communicating, and working, it also threatens the privacy of information. Many aspects of daily life are now online, from work documents to entertainment choices, family photos, financial records, and other miscellaneous activities. Two examples demonstrate the importance of online privacy: Google with its ever-growing stable of applications and <b>Facebook's</b> recent changes to its privacy policy. Google, for example, can gather various types of information from users, including what they search, all Web pages that they visit, all email sent and received through Gmail, and medical records if entered into Google Health. Adapted from the source document.
<b>Language</b>	English
<b>Publication Year</b>	2009
<b>Publication Type</b>	Journal Article
<b>Classification</b>	18.0 RECORDS MANAGEMENT
<b>Publisher</b>	Information Today Inc, Medford, NJ
<b>Update</b>	20090831
<b>Accession Number</b>	200909199
<b>Country of Publication</b>	United States

## Searchable Field Codes

Field Name	Label	Search Examples	Indexing Policy
Abstract	AB=	AB=library automation	50% of abstracts are written by the indexers. Author abstracts will be recognised by the following at the end of the abstract (author abstract) or (author abstract-amended) or even (Quotes from original text)
Accession Number	AN=	AN= 337749	Accession number is the unique number of the record in this particular database
Author	AU=	AU=Corti, Louise, AU= Goswami, P R	All Authors are indexed as they appear in the journal
Descriptors	DE=	DE=Library Management	Descriptors are terms from the thesaurus enriched by additional non-thesaural terms. (See section on thesaurus below)
Features	FE=	FE=refs	The feature describes extra information that you will find in the fulltext. It may include one or more of the following il : Illustrations ports: Portraits refs: Cited references maps: Maps tbls: Tables music: Music
ISBN	IB=	IB= 1873671318	This is the ISBN (International Standard Book Number). This is the unique number for a book
ISSN	IS=	IS= 0306-4573	An ISSN (International Standard Serial Number). This is the unique number of a journal.
Journal volume	JV=	JV=34	This is the Volume number of a journal.
Journal Issue	JI=	JI=4	This relates to the issue number of a journal.
Journal Name	JN=	JN=Information Today	This field is word indexed. This



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			information is displayed under the header called Source
Journal Page	JP=	JP=129	This will retrieve either the start page or the end page of an article.
Keywords	KW=	KW=library management	The Keyword field is searching Title, Abstracts and Descriptors fields together. It is the best way to search all the subject fields altogether.
Language	LA=	LA=French	See the section on language to see which languages are covered in LISA
Publication Type	PT=	PT=Journal Article	LISA only contains Journal article,
Publication Year	PY=	PY=2003	Four digit numeral which describes the year of publication of an item.
Resource Location	RL=	RL=firstmonday	This contains the URL where the document has been posted.
Shelfmark	SH=	SH=4496.373700	British Library shelfmark. Very useful if you want to know where to find an item within the British Library
Source	SO=	SO=Information today near 21	This field contains the journal name (JN), volume, issue, year and page number. You can search all of the above mentioned information using a proximity operator.
Title	TI=	TI=fear factors TI=La <i>Bibliothèque</i> Orientale: histoire, conservation et numérisation. The <i>Bibliothèque</i> Orientale: history, conservation and arrangement	The full title is found. If the article is published in another language than English, the original title will be displayed first followed by a translation in British English
Update	UD=	UD=200412	This is the date when the record was uploaded to CSA Illumina. YYYYMMDD

### Language

Articles in any of the following languages are indexed in LISA:



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Afrikaans	English	Italian	Serbian
Arabic	Finnish	Japanese	Slovak
Bulgarian	French	Malay	Slovenian
Catalan	Gaelic	Norwegian	Spanish
Croatian	German	Persian	Swedish
Czech	Hebrew	Polish	Turkish
Chinese	Hungarian	Portuguese	Urdu
Danish	Icelandic	Rumanian	Yugoslav
Dutch	Indonesian	Russian	Welsh

### Boolean Operators and Other Search Tools Supported by the Illumina Interface

**Boolean operators help define the relationships between words or groups of words.**

AND	Use to narrow a search and retrieve records containing all of the words it separates
OR	Use to broaden a search and retrieve records containing any of the words it separates
NOT	Use to narrow a search and retrieve records that do not contain the term following it
( )	Use to group words or phrases when combining Boolean phrases and to show the order in which relationships should be considered

**Proximity operators identify the number of words to come between the search terms.**

WITHIN "X"	Use to narrow a search by specifying a proximity relationship of fewer than "X" words between search terms.
NEAR	Use to narrow a search by specifying a proximity relationship of fewer than 10 words between search terms

**Special symbols can expand the scope of your search.**

*	Truncate using the wild card symbol. This expands a search term to include forms of a root word, e.g. catalog* retrieves catalog, catalogue, catalogs, catalogues, cataloguing, etc.
?	Find alternative spellings. The ? represents any single character; ?? represents two characters and so on. Use within or at the end of a word, e.g. wom?n finds woman as well as women



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Note: Search queries containing several operators search in the following order: ( ), NEAR, NOT, AND, OR

### Quick, Advanced, or Command Searching

On Illumina, search strategies can be applied using one of three approaches.

**Quick Search:** Depending on the defaults set by your administrator, Quick Search either executes your search “anywhere” or only searches “keywords”. An anywhere search looks across all of the available fields in a record whereas a Keyword search would look in the subject fields (Title, abstracts, descriptors, identifiers, Original titles).

Multiple words entered into the search field, will be treated as a phrase. Searches are ***not*** case sensitive.

CSA ILLUMINA  
Drill, Baby, Drill! For steam, not oil

Please log in to My Research XML

0 Marked Records | Search History

Help & Support

Logout Quick Search **Advanced Search** Search Tools Browse

(facebook or social network\*) and Libra\* **Search**

[Search Tips](#): All Fields are being searched.  
For best results, use AND between terms, wildcard\*, or "exact phrase"

**Now Selected:** ? LISA: Library and Information Science Abstracts

**Change:** — Subject Area — or [Specific Databases](#)

**Date Range:** Earliest to Current

[Create Desktop Shortcut to Quick Search](#)

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Interface English Go



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**Advanced Search:** Gives you the advantage of being able to select any of the 19 field codes from a pull-down menu. The separate search boxes are formatted to include the Boolean Operators to help guide you in formatting your search.

CSA ILLUMINA  
Drill, Baby, Drill! For steam, not oil

Please log in to My Research XML  
0 Marked Records | Search History

Logout Quick Search **Advanced Search** Search Tools Browse

Help & Support

Add Row | Remove Row

and ( ) or or  
and ( ) or or

Search Tips: e.g., wildcard\*, exact phrase; use Keywords for a single search of Title, Abstract, Descript

Search Clear

Now Selected: LISA: Library and Information Science Abstracts

Change: Subject Area or Specific Databases

Date Range: Earliest to 2010

Limited to:  Latest Update  Journal Articles Only  English Only

More Search Options: (Hide)

**LISA: Library and Information Science Abstracts Indexes & Limits**

Author  Browse Author

Journal Name  Browse Journal Name

Publication Type  Browse Publication Type

Show: Shortformat Results per page: 10

Search Tools: [History/Combine Searches](#) | [Command Search](#) | [Thesaurus](#) | [Indexes](#)

[Create Desktop Shortcut to Advanced Search](#)

Keywords, KW=  
Author, AU=  
Anywhere  
Anywhere  
Keywords, KW=  
Author, AU=  
Title, TI=  
Descriptors, DE=  
Abstract, AB=  
Accession Number, AN=  
Author, AU=  
Classification, CL=  
Descriptors, DE=  
Features, FE=  
ISBN, IB=  
ISSN, IS=  
Journal Issue, JI=  
Journal Name, JN=  
Journal Pages, JP=  
Journal Volume, JV=  
Keywords, KW=  
Language, LA=

**Command Search or Professional Search:** May be preferred by advanced users who are comfortable with entering search strategies without the aid of a template.



The screenshot shows the ProQuest LISA database search interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with options like 'Quick Search', 'Advanced Search', 'Search Tools', and 'Browse'. The main search area is titled 'Command Search' and contains a search query: `KW=((public libraries) and (visually impaired or blind)) and la=(french or english)`. Below the query, there are buttons for 'Search' and 'Clear'. The interface also includes filters for 'Now Selected', 'Change', 'Date Range', and 'Limited to'. There are also fields for 'Author', 'Journal Name', and 'Publication Type' with corresponding 'Browse' links. At the bottom, there are options for 'Show' (Short format) and 'Results per page' (10).

## Limits

Search strategies may be refined by using the following limits (available in 'Advanced Search' and 'Command Search'):

**Latest Update** limits your results to include only the most recent records that were added to the database. LISA is updated twice monthly.

**Journal Articles Only** limits the search to only include the publication type of journal articles

**English Only** limits retrieval to only records that are available in English.

**By Publication Date** limits retrieval to a specific date range.



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### Sorting

The sorting features give you the opportunity to order your results based on the publication date or relevancy.

**Most Recent First** displays the records in order beginning with the most recent.

**Relevance Rank** displays records in order based on relevancy. Relevancy is determined through a rating system that weighs the records based on the number of times the term(s) appear in the record and where they appear.

### Showing Records

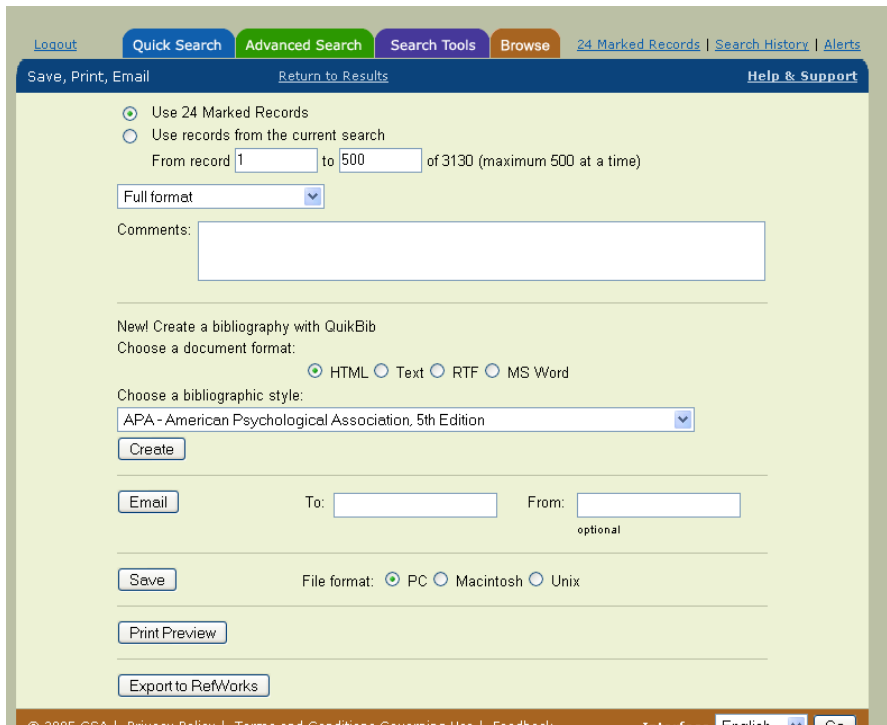
Select how to display records from the „Show‘ pull-down menu. Options include displaying the short format, full format, full format-no references, and custom format.

The „de-duplication‘ feature automatically removes any duplicate records that appear in your set of results, which is especially useful when you are cross-database searching. You can also use the „Show Duplicates‘ feature to display the duplicates.

When viewing records on Illumina, both the author and descriptors are hot linked. Clicking on the hot-link will search the database for each occurrence of the selected author or descriptor.

### Printing, Saving, and E-mailing Records

Printing, saving, and e-mailing records can be done by using the „Save, Print, E-mail‘ function. This function also includes an exporting feature to a number of bibliographic managers such as [RefWorks](#) and the use of our output format editor, [QuikBib](#).



The screenshot shows the ProQuest LISA database interface. At the top, there are navigation tabs: Logout, Quick Search, Advanced Search (highlighted), Search Tools, and Browse. Below these are links for 24 Marked Records, Search History, and Alerts. A secondary navigation bar includes Save, Print, Email, Return to Results, and Help & Support. The main content area has several sections: 1. Record selection: Radio buttons for 'Use 24 Marked Records' (selected) and 'Use records from the current search'. Below is a range selector 'From record 1 to 500 of 3130 (maximum 500 at a time)'. 2. Full format: A dropdown menu set to 'Full format'. 3. Comments: A large empty text box. 4. Bibliography creation: A section titled 'New! Create a bibliography with QuikBib'. It includes 'Choose a document format:' with radio buttons for HTML (selected), Text, RTF, and MS Word. Below is 'Choose a bibliographic style:' with a dropdown menu set to 'APA - American Psychological Association, 5th Edition'. 5. Email: An 'Email' button, a 'To:' text box, and a 'From:' text box with 'optional' written below it. 6. Save: A 'Save' button and 'File format:' radio buttons for PC (selected), Macintosh, and Unix. 7. Print Preview: A 'Print Preview' button. 8. Export to RefWorks: An 'Export to RefWorks' button. At the bottom, there is a footer with copyright information and language options.

## Thesaurus Search

Using a thesaurus is a more powerful way to identify relevant descriptors, along with related terms.

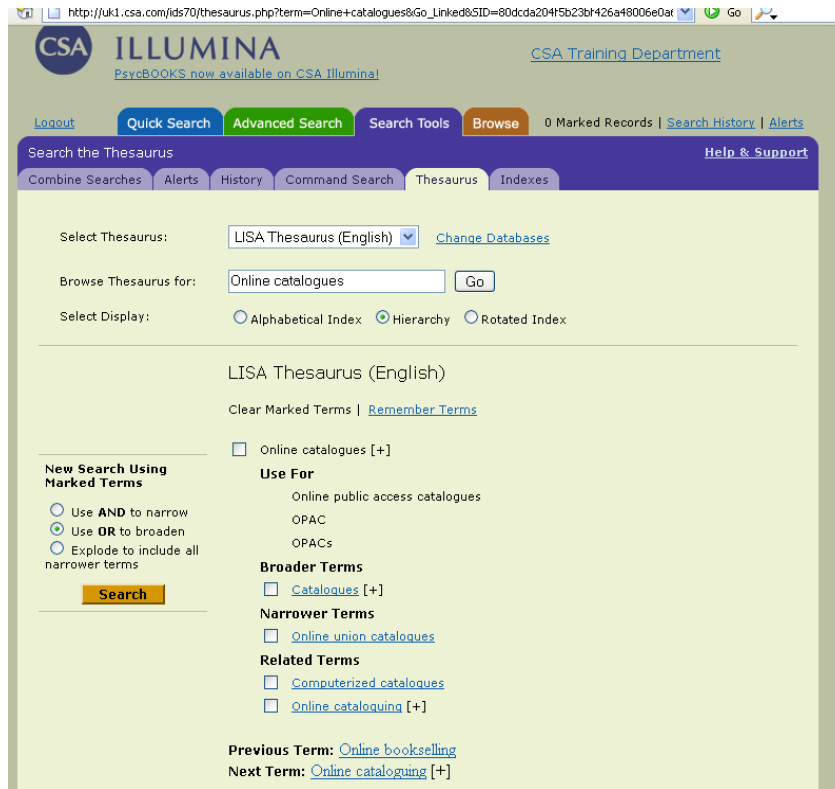
The Thesaurus is a search aid that helps you select appropriate terms, ensuring the most comprehensive retrieval. In LISA, the thesaurus allows you to browse terms in a hierarchical index and helps you define more accurately what you are looking for.

LISA Thesaurus may be searched directly from the Thesaurus tab, using the Thesaurus Search Feature.

There are 3 ways of searching the thesaurus:

1. The Alphabetical display presents an alphabetical list of thesaurus terms. This can be compared to an Index
2. The Hierarchical display shows a term and its hierarchy. You will find additional information in this view, including its Scope and History Notes, any Use For (UF) or Use directions, and its hierarchical relationships with Broader Terms (BT), Narrower Terms (NT), and Related Terms (RT). (see screenshot below)
3. The Rotated Index displays all thesaurus terms or phrases that contain the search term used. You should only enter one word in the box. For example if you search for the word "libraries" you will display libraries as a descriptor term but also "Academic libraries", "Digital libraries" etc.

This example illustrates the hierarchical display:



"Online catalogues" may be referred to in English language documents by a number of terms, such as:

- online catalogs
- online public access catalogues
- OPAC
- OPACs

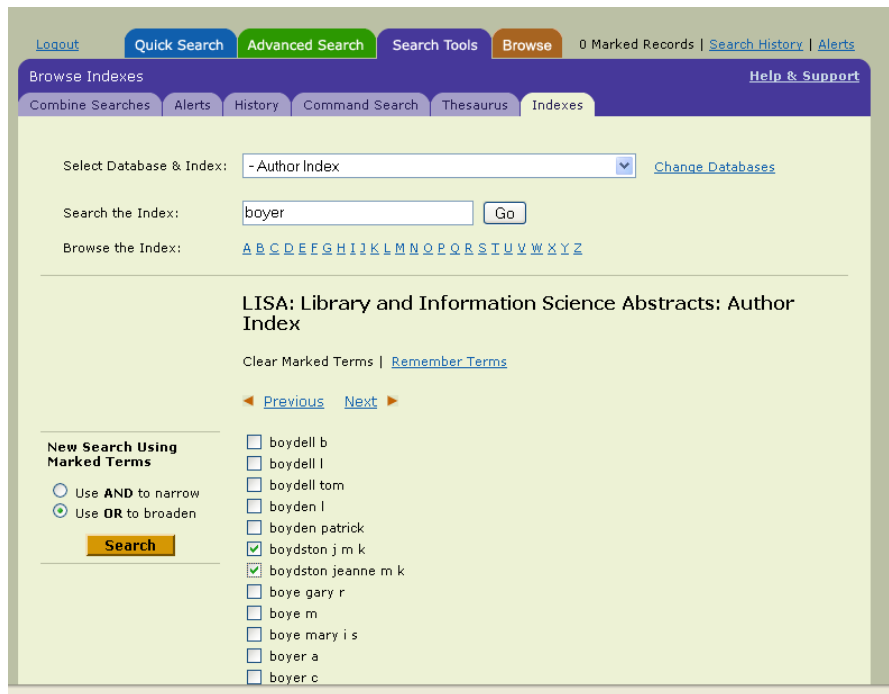
The LISA Thesaurus gives one permitted term or descriptor and that is "Online catalogues". The other synonymous terms are listed in the Thesaurus, with a UF (Used For) reference to the permitted term.

Descriptor (DE):	Online catalogues
Used For:	Online catalogues, Online public access catalogues, OPAC, OPACs
Broader term BT:	Catalogues
Narrower Terms NT	Online union catalogues
Related Terms RT:	Computerized catalogues, Online cataloguing

Marked terms can be searched from any of the displays, applying AND, OR, or Explode operators, and setting limits as defined above.

## Browse Indexes

Searches may also be activated through three browsable indexes: Author, Journal Name, and Publication Type.



The screenshot shows the ProQuest LISA database interface. At the top, there are navigation tabs: Logout, Quick Search, Advanced Search, Search Tools, and Browse. Below these, there are sub-tabs: Combine Searches, Alerts, History, Command Search, Thesaurus, and Indexes. The main content area is titled 'Browse Indexes' and includes a dropdown menu for 'Select Database & Index:' set to '- Author Index'. A search box contains the text 'boyer' and a 'Go' button. Below the search box is a 'Browse the Index:' section with a list of letters from A to Z. The main search results are titled 'LISA: Library and Information Science Abstracts: Author Index' and include a 'Clear Marked Terms' link and 'Remember Terms' link. A list of author names is shown with checkboxes: boydell b, boydell l, boydell tom, boyden l, boyden patrick, boydston j m k (checked), boydston jeanne m k (checked), boye gary r, boye m, boye mary i s, boyer a, and boyer c. On the left side, there is a 'New Search Using Marked Terms' section with radio buttons for 'Use AND to narrow' and 'Use OR to broaden', and a 'Search' button.

## The Research Process

### I. How to begin the electronic research process

#### A. Determine your goals:

1. State your research question: “??”
2. Set parameters for your search (eg, *technology type, gender, geographical location*)

#### B. Identify general concepts:

1. Which general terms relate to your search?

#### C. Choose the appropriate database:

1. Are there specific journals that specialize in your area of research?

### II. Build your search strategy

#### A. Quick Search:



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1. Enter phrase or multiple search terms separated by Boolean operators AND to link terms, OR to link similar words or synonyms in the Quick Search box.

#### B. Advanced Search:

1. The drop boxes allow you to limit the search by any of the searchable field codes including Keyword (KW), Author (AU), Journal Name (JN), Descriptor (DE), Abstract (AB), or Title (TI).
2. You can also limit your search to specific publication years and choose the record format.
3. The descriptor field (DE) and abstract field (AB) will allow you to narrow down your search even more by locating specific descriptors and key words in the abstract.  
Example: If I wanted to limit my search to India.

### III. Analyzing Results

#### A. Good results:

1. If results are satisfactory, then Save, Print, E-mail citations or download them to a bibliographic manager such as RefWorks or QuikBib.

#### B. If results are not on target:

1. Check spelling of search terms and use thesauri or browsable indexes to drop unnecessary or misleading terms.
2. Increase precision: for example, if you want to emphasize the gender gap in access to Internet, then you may have to search *access* as a descriptor (DE) or word in the title of the article instead of by keyword (KW). Also, *sexual inequality* may be more specific than just *sex difference*.
3. You may need to rethink whether the database you selected is appropriate for your search.

#### C. Too few or too many results:

1. Increase retrieval by using fewer ANDs and more Ors.

Example: KW=Internet OR information technology OR computers

2. Increase precision by using additional ANDs and fewer ORs (NOT can be used to exclude some terms)

Example: KW=(Internet AND information technology AND computers NOT telecommunications



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### Where to find help

#### Search our Support Center:

<http://www.proquest.com/support>

#### To access product help and training documentation:

<http://www.proquest.com/go/training>

<http://www.proquest.co.uk/go/training>

#### By phone

**In North America:** 800-889-3358

**Outside North America:** 0880 220 710 (UK only)  
+44 1223 271 496 (Outside of UK)