



Chapter 11: Selection and Evaluation of Reference Sources

Anne C. Barnhart

Review Questions

- 1. What makes a reference source different from other information materials? Identify some examples and explain the specific selection criteria that classify each as a reference source. Finally, describe how reference sources, and how we access them, have changed over time.
- Why is selection and evaluation an important responsibility for libraries/librarians?
 Give examples of outcomes that could result from both poor and quality selection, print and electronic.
- 3. Collection development policies are not intended to be step-by-step manuals for maintaining your collection. What are some reasons why it is important to make sure your collection development policy serves as a guideline for decision making?

Strengthen Your Understanding

To strengthen your understanding of this chapter, be sure to complete the activities and answer the questions for reflection and discussion in Box 11.1 Organizing Databases on page 277, Box 11.2 Calculate E-Resource Pricing on page 280, Box 11.3 E-Resources and Inflation on page 281, Box 11.5 Examining Database Cost-Per-Use Date on page 287, and Box 11.6 Reference Collections and Policies on page 288.