

Chapter 12: Search Strategies for Online Sources

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Review Questions

- 1. List the different types of databases and provide 1-2 sentences of explanation describing each. Be sure to include the key aspects that make each type of database unique.
- 2. Describe the role of *search engine* and *interface* in terms of databases. Why are they useful in reference and information services?
- 3. There are five different database search strategies discussed in this chapter. Briefly describe each strategy and tell why they are important tools for librarians. Later in the chapter, three strategies for searching the web are discussed. How are these similar to the database strategies? How are they different?
- 4. What are some ways to help patrons who may not have experience search databases or reference tools? Why is a thorough understanding of the structure of databases, role of metadata, and search algorithms helpful in helping patrons with information access?

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 12.2 Using Search Fields on page 301, Box 12.4 Using a Database Thesaurus on page 303, Box 12.5 Predicting the Results of Boolean Operations on page 306, Box 12.6 Using Boolean Operations on page 307, Box 12.7 Learning About a New Database on page 308, Box 12.8 Explore Citation Tracking on page 309, Box 12.10 Exploring Discovery Search on page 317, and Box 12.11 Putting it all Together on page 318.