

Information Literacy Challenge

This round can test students' ability to find, evaluate, interpret, use and communicate information effectively.

Round 3: Information Literacy Challenge

Section A: Finding Information

1. You are asked to find scholarly articles on *artificial intelligence in academic libraries*.

Which search statement is likely to produce the most relevant results?

- A. Artificial intelligence libraries
- B. AI OR libraries
- C. "artificial intelligence" AND "academic libraries"
- D. Artificial intelligence academic libraries Uganda books

Answer: C

2. You need a scholarly article on a specific topic, but your initial search produces thousands of results. Which action would be most appropriate?

- A. Stop searching
- B. Add relevant keywords and use filters
- C. Select the first result
- D. Search only social media

Answer: B

3. What is the main purpose of using quotation marks around a phrase in a database search?

- A. To exclude the phrase in the search
- B. To search for the words as an exact phrase
- C. To search for synonyms
- D. To search only books

Answer: B

4. Which Boolean operator is normally used to **narrow** a search?

- A. OR
- B. AND
- C. NOT
- D. MAYBE

Answer: B

5. Which Boolean operator is useful when searching for alternative terms or synonyms?

- A. AND
- B. NOT
- C. OR
- D. WITH

Answer: C

Section B: Evaluating Information

6. You find two articles about climate change. One is a peer-reviewed journal article published in 2026; the other is an anonymous blog post published in 2015. Which should generally receive greater scrutiny before being used in an academic assignment?

- A. The journal article
- B. The anonymous blog post
- C. Both are automatically equally reliable
- D. Neither can be used

Answer: B

7. Which of the following is **NOT** normally a useful criterion for evaluating an academic information source?

- A. Authority
- B. Accuracy
- C. Currency
- D. ISBN

Answer: D

8. A website claims, “Our university is the best university in Africa,” but provides no evidence or source. What should an information-literate student do?

- A. Accept the claim since its from the University website
- B. Share it immediately
- C. Look for supporting evidence and independent sources
- D. Assume it is true because it appears on a university website

Answer: C

9. What does **peer review** generally mean in scholarly publishing?

- A. Students vote on an article
- B. Experts in the field evaluate scholarly work before publication
- C. The author reviews their own article
- D. A librarian approves the article

Answer: B

10. Which source would normally be most appropriate for supporting a university research paper?

- A. A verified social-media post on university website
- B. A peer-reviewed scholarly article
- C. A textbook
- D. A Book chapter

Answer: B

Section C: Information Sources

11. Which of the following is a **primary source**?

- A. A textbook summarising several studies
- B. An original research article reporting the author's findings
- C. An encyclopedia entry
- D. A literature review

Answer: B

12. A literature review primarily:

- A. Presents only the author's personal opinions
- B. Summarises and synthesises existing research on a topic
- C. Advertises a product
- D. Replaces the need for references

Answer: B

13. Which source is most likely to provide statistical information about a country's population?

- A. National census report
- B. Fiction novel
- C. Newspaper advertisement
- D. Personal diary

Answer: A

14. What is the main purpose of a library catalogue?

- A. To provide entertainment
- B. To help users discover and locate library resources
- C. To replace academic databases
- D. To provide social-media accounts

Answer: B

15. What is an institutional repository?

- A. A university's collection of scholarly and institutional digital materials
- B. A university cafeteria database
- C. A social-media platform
- D. A personal email account

Answer: A

Section D: Referencing and Academic Integrity

16. Why should a student cite information obtained from another author's work?

- A. To make the assignment longer
- B. To acknowledge the original source and allow readers to verify the information
- C. To avoid reading the source
- D. To increase the font size

Answer: B

17. Presenting another person's ideas or words as your own without proper acknowledgement is called:

- A. Citation
- B. Plagiarism
- C. Paraphrasing
- D. Indexing

Answer: B

18. A student changes the wording of an author's paragraph but keeps the author's idea. Does the student still need to cite the source?

- A. Yes
- B. No
- C. Only if the paragraph is long
- D. Only if the lecturer asks

Answer: A

19. Which practice is the best way to avoid plagiarism when taking notes?

- A. Copy everything without recording the source
- B. Record the source details together with your notes
- C. Delete the author's name
- D. Memorise the website address only

Answer: B

Section E: The Information Detective Challenge

20. You are given this information:

“A recent study shows that 95% of university students prefer printed books to electronic books.”

The statement has **no author, date, research institution, sample size or reference.**

What should you do first?

- A. Quote it in your assignment
- B. Post it on social media
- C. Investigate the original study and verify the claim
- D. Assume it is accurate because it says “a recent study”

Answer: C

21. You find an article published in 2012. Your lecturer asks you to use recent research on artificial intelligence. What should you consider?

- A. Use it automatically because it is an academic article
- B. Search for more recent literature while considering whether the 2012 article provides important foundational information
- C. Reject every article published before 2026 because its not up todate.
- D. Search for a social-media post instead

Answer: B

22. A student searches Google and uses the first result as their main source. What important information-literacy principle has the student overlooked?

- A. Search results must be evaluated for relevance, authority and credibility
- B. Google results are always wrong
- C. The first result is always the best
- D. Search engines cannot find academic information

Answer: A

23. You have four sources:

1. A peer-reviewed journal article
2. An anonymous Facebook post
3. A university research report
4. A newspaper article

If your assignment requires **scholarly evidence**, which source should you investigate first?

- A. 1
- B. 2
- C. 3
- D. 4

Answer: A

24. A student needs to find information about a book but knows only its title and author.

What library tool should the student normally consult first?

- A. Library catalogue
- B. Newspaper archive
- C. Social media
- D. Dictionary

Answer: A