

Worksheet

What is your research question?

For each of the following exercises, modify your original research question accordingly.

Type your research question into Google. Are the results relevant and useful?

Repeat one of your search terms at least three times. What effect does this have on your results?

Add quotation marks (if appropriate). What effect does this have on your results?

Use a '-' to eliminate a search term. What effect does this have on your results?

Use 'Verbatim' to force Google to use all of your search terms. What effect does this have on your results?

Use * to stand in for one or more words. What effect does this have on your results?

Use 'intitle:' to specify that a search term must appear in the title of the results.

Use 'filetype:pdf' to specify that all results should be PDFs.

Use 'site:gov.uk' to search for documents and pages published on UK Government sites.

Restrict the date range to search only for results indexed by Google in the last month.

Use all of the above techniques at the same time! What effect does *this* have on your results?
