



Information Competency Assessment Instrument

Last Name, First Name

Course

Date

Instructor

Instructions: Click in the circle next to the correct answer.

1. The best place to look for an introduction to a topic such as astronomy is:

- A. The library catalog
- B. An encyclopedia
- C. A periodical
- D. Don't know

2. Describe the effects of a thinning ozone layer on the environment

What source would you use to find the best and most current information on this topic?

- A. A dictionary
- B. An atlas
- C. A periodical index
- D. An encyclopedia

3. Discuss capital punishment as a deterrent to crime

Which of the following statements will get the best information from a CD-ROM or online database?

- A. Capital punishment **or** crime
- B. Capital punishment **not** crime
- C. Capital punishment **and** crime

4. A periodical index is used to:

- A. Locate journal articles
- B. Find video titles
- C. Look for books
- D. Don't know

5. A bibliography is a list of:

- A. Addresses
- B. Phone numbers
- C. Information sources
- D. Corporations

- E. Don't know

6. To find the most current information on your topic you would consult:

- A. Books
- B. Periodical articles
- C. Encyclopedia articles
- D. Bibliographies

Using this SAMPLE (highlighted in blue) from the Readers Guide to Periodical Literature, answer questions 7 - 11

Humor and speeches (address, December 5, 1995) E. Finerman. *Vital Speeches of the Day* v62 p313-15 Mr 1 '96

The lecture theater of the absurd. J Lowe. *The American Scholar* v65 p99-106 Wint '96

Make your words count. D. Naughton. il *Washingtonian* v31 p78-81+ MR '96

Professionally speaking [profits from the public speaking boom] L. B. Paquet. il *Home Office Computing* v14 94-5 F '96

7. The author of the article titled, "Humor and speeches" is:

- A. J. Lowe
- B. E. Finerman
- C. Vital Speeches
- D. L. B. Paquet

8. The name of the periodical for the highlighted article is:

- A. Phi Delta Kappan
- B. Speeches
- C. Vital
- D. Vital Speeches of the Day

9. The volume number of the periodical for the highlighted article is:

- A. 5
- B. 15
- C. 62
- D. 313

10. The highlighted article is how many pages long?

- A. 2
- B. 3

- C. 5
- D. 15

11. What is the date of the periodical from the highlighted article?

- A. December 5, 1995
- B. March 1, 1996
- C. August 18, 1996
- D. March 15, 1962

12. List the key subject words in the following assignment.

Prepare a presentation on the gains achieved by women during the 1980s

Which of these answers provides the best list of key words to use for information on this assignment

- A. Presentation, women, gains
- B. Women, gains, achieved
- C. Women, gains, 1980s
- D. Gains, achieved, 1980s

13. You consult a dictionary to find information on:

- A. Titles owned by the library
- B. Meanings of words
- C. Articles on a topic
- D. Addresses

14. When should you consult a librarian for assistance?

- A. You don't know where to start looking for information.
- B. You need additional information on a subject.
- C. You want to make certain you have used the best reference sources.
- D. You need help in using library materials.
- E. All of the above.

15. When performing a search with a "search engine" such as Alta Vista, which will find less items?

- A. Dogs and cats
- B. Dogs or cats
- C. They will find the same number of items

16. A library research strategy is:

- A. Manual describing the proper format for a research paper.
- B. A handout available at the Reference Desk explaining how to get books from other libraries.

- C. A list of books on specific topics.
- D. A plan of action that gives direction to your research.

17. To find a book in the library on the life of Maya Angelou, you would look:

- A. Under her name in the catalog.
- B. In a biography of American authors.
- C. In a periodical index.

Using these SAMPLE Library of Congress call numbers, complete statements 18 and 19

If you are not familiar with the Library of Congress System, skip to question numbers 20 and 21.

A	B	C	D	E	F
P	P	P	PC	PE	PE
29	29	41	1640	1625	1625
.C25	.L891	.299	.C33	.A54	.C43

18. A book with the call number **PE 1625.C9 would be placed on the shelf:**

- A. Between C and D
- B. Between E and F
- C. After F
- D. Between D and E

19. A book with the call number **PC 3295.A95 would be placed on the shelf:**

- A. Between A and B
- B. Between B and C
- C. Between C and D
- D. Between D and E

Using these SAMPLE Dewey call numbers, complete statements 20 and 21.

A	B	C	D	E
394.2	398.26	551	551.42	551.42
Mon	Cal	Die	Lop	Cap

20. A book with the call number **398.26 Mur would be placed on the shelf:**

- A. Between A and B
- B. Between B and C
- C. Between C and D
- D. Between D and E

21. A book with the call number 551.14 Nar would be placed on the shelf:

- A. Between A and B
- B. Between B and C
- C. Between C and D
- D. Between D and E

PLEASE EXAMINE THIS WEB SITE AND ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:

[Click here to view web site as a graphic](#) or [Click here to view web site online](#)

22. Is there an indication of when the information was created or updated?

- A. Yes
- B. No
- C. Can't tell

23. Is there information on the author or producer of the web site?

- A. Yes
- B. No
- C. Can't tell

24. Is there information on the author or producer's credentials?

- A. Yes
- B. No
- C. Can't tell

25. Is there contact information (e.g. email address for the author or producer)?

- A. Yes
- B. No
- C. Can't tell

26. Does the web site cover the topic extensively?

- A. Yes
- B. No
- C. Can't tell

27. Is the information presented as fact (vs. opinion)?

- A. Yes

- B. No**
- C. Can't tell**

[Click Here to Receive Your Score](#)