Sample Questions – Internet Research Techniques

Part I: Introduction and Browser Basics

1. What does the Internet allow us to do? (communicate instantaneously across land, ocean and outer space)

2. How many people know how to use the Internet to its maximum benefit? (a small fraction)

3. What is a browser? (a program that gets you onto the web and lets you navigate around it)

4. What are the two goals students would do well to achieve when using the Internet? (speed and efficiency)

5. What is the most widely used browser? (Internet Explorer)

6. Name three tasks under Internet Explorer’s File menu. (print, save and send)

7. What is a “bookmarked” web site? (one selected for instant retrieval, found under the “favorites” menu)

8. How can you bookmark a web page? (Hold down your mouse on the “favorites” menu, slide down to “add to favorites,” release the button, rename it if desired, click the “add” button.)

9. Name two things you can do under the edit menu in Internet Explorer? (copy and paste)

10. What must you do if you use a word-for-word quote? (Give a citation according to your teacher’s instructions.)

11. What will help you retrieve many websites dealing with a topic? (Create a separate folder that contains links to the sites.)

12. How do you create a separate folder to retrieve many websites dealing with a topic? (Click “favorites,” “organize favorites,” click “new folder” button, name it, press the “enter” key.)

13. What three tabs are shown when the “star favorites” button is clicked? (favorites, feeds and history)

14. What does the history tab show? (websites recently visited)

15. How can you add a web page to the favorites bar? (Click the star and arrow button while visiting the web page you want added.)

16. How can you get additional websites into tabbed folders? (Click the small tab, select a site from a search, or type in the web address box and click to the right of the address or click a site from your favorites list.)

Part II: Search Engines

1. How many websites are there? (hundreds of millions)

2. What is the most widely used search engine? (Google)

3. What is the first step in finding information when writing a report? (Narrow the topic.)

4. What can you use to cull out unwanted websites? (advanced search)

5. What Internet Explorer feature helps you find terms in a long web article and under what menu item is it found? (“find on this page” command found under the edit menu)

Part III: Being Selective

1. When researching a report, what does “garbage in, garbage out” mean? (Bad information results in a bad report.)
2. What two kinds of websites should you stay away from when writing a report? (dot-com sites and blogs)

3. True or false? Most information on the web has been reviewed for balance and accuracy by professional editors. (false)

4. What are generally the most reliable sites? (dot-edu, dot-gov, dot-org sites)

5. What sites are best when looking for statistical, historical, scientific and legislative information? (dot-gov sites)

**Part IV Copying**

1. True or false? Teachers can’t tell when you have copied large sections of a web site. (false)

2. Give five reasons why copying is a bad idea. (defeats the purpose of the assignment, you’re being dishonest, you learn very little – if anything – when you copy, can result in a failing grade, can result in extreme embarrassment)

3. What must you do if you copy sections of a web page? (credit your source)
Internet Research Techniques Pre-Test

Directions: Write your answer in the space below each question.

1. Define the term “browser.”

2. What is the most widely used browser program?

3. How many tiers are found on Internet Explorer?

4. What three tabs are found when clicking the star “favorites” button?

5. How can you add a web page to the favorites bar?

6. How many websites are there?

7. What is a search engine?

8. What is the most commonly used search engine?

9. What are generally the most reliable sites (site extensions)?

10. Give six reasons why copying from web pages is a bad idea.
I. Lesson One: Introduction and Browser Basics

A. Introduction

1. Definition of the Internet
   a. Network of computers throughout world
   b. Enables people to communicate
   c. Offers entertainment, social networking, news and information

B. Browsers allow you to go on web and navigate around it.

1. Many excellent browsers
   a. Netscape Navigator
   b. Firefox
   c. Safari
   d. Opera
   e. Chrome

2. Most widely used – Internet Explorer

C. Internet Explorer composition – five tiers above the web page

1. Some give web page information
2. Others allow users to perform a number of tasks

D. Focus will be on tasks most useful to students

1. Third tier – the menu bar and pull-down tasks
   a. File menu
   b. Edit menu
   c. Favorites menu

2. Fourth tier – favorites and “bookmarks”
   a. “Star favorites” button, its tabs and what they do
      (1) favorites
      (2) history
2. Fifth tier – the tab section
   a. First tab – home page
   b. Opening additional tabs
      (1) Click small tab
      (2) How to get web pages in additional tabs
         (a) Select from favorites list
         (b) Select from search list
         (c) Type in address and click arrow to right

E. Word of warning – many versions of IE
   1. Use help menu
   2. Do some searching

II. Lesson II: Search Engines
   A. Need help because hundreds of millions of web sites
   B. Many excellent search engines
      1. Alta Vista
      2. Ask
      3. Bing
      4. Dogpile
      5. Yahoo Search
   C. Most widely used – Google
   D. First thing to do – narrow topic
   E. Use advanced search to cull out unwanted sites
   F. Use “find on this page”
      1. Found in edit menu in Internet Explorer
      2. Especially helpful when web page contains long article

III. Lesson III: Being selective
   A. Garbage in, garbage out
1. Bad information means bad report
2. Stay away from “garbage” websites
   a. Blogs
   b. Dot-com sites

B. Most web sites not reviewed for accuracy and balance

C. Generally reliable sites
   1. Dot-edu sites
   2. Dot-org sites
   3. Dot-gov sites
      a. Statistical information
      b. Historical information
      c. Scientific information
      d. Legislative information

IV. Lesson IV: Copying

A. Why it’s a bad idea
   1. Learn very little, if anything
   2. Being dishonest
   3. Teacher will know
   4. Failing grade
   5. Embarrassment
   6. Defeats purpose of the assignment

B. When it’s okay to quote
   1. Limited amount
   2. Give source
Internet Research Techniques Terms

Directions: Some of the terms used in the video are found below. Define the terms as your teacher instructs. Use the back of this paper if you need more room.

Part I: Introduction and Browser Basics

1. Internet:
2. Network:
3. Array:
4. Instantaneously:
5. Browser:
6. Web:
7. Efficiently:
8. Tier:
9. Pull-down list:
10. Via:
11. Bookmark:
12. Citation:
13. Retrieval:
14. Pertinent:
15. Search box:
16. Icon:
17. Right click:
18. Avail:

Part II: Search Engines

19. Search Engine:
20. Advanced Search Link:
21. Multitude:
22. Cull:
23. Domain:
24. Irrelevant:

**Part III: Being Selective**

25. Selective:
26. Blog:
27. Balanced information:
You saw various tasks that Internet Explorer 8 can perform. Because they may have gone by too quickly to remember all the steps, the charts below can be used to refresh your memory.

Use the charts below to practice these tasks (if you use Internet Explorer 8).

**Send a web page or link via email.**

- Click file menu.
- Slide cursor to “send.”
- Click “page by email.”
- Email program activated.
- Address and write subject.
- Write note.
- Send.

**Bookmark a site.**

- Find and open favored website.
- Hold mouse button on “favorites.”
- Slide to “add to favorites.”
- Release button.
- Pop-up dialog box appears.
- Rename website if you wish.
- Click the “add” button.

**Create a folder.**

- Click “favorites.”
- Click “organize favorites.”
- Pop-up menu appears.
- Click “new folder” button.
- Name the folder.
- Press “enter.”

**Place websites in a folder.**

- Find and open favored website.
- Click “favorites.”
- Click “add to favorites.”
- Rename folder.
- Accept folder name.
- Click “V” for pulldown menu.
- Select folder.
- Click “add.”
As you saw in the video, placing a collection of favorites in a file folder (and then perhaps placing the folder on the favorites bar) can be a very convenient, time-saving way to retrieve websites. If you are currently doing research for a project, use the space below to describe the contents of your file folder.

Name of your file folder:

Favorite websites in folder:
When searching for appropriate websites, the first order of business is to narrow your topic. Using the following broad topics below, use your search engine to see how many websites are cited. Then, narrow the topic, and again see how many websites are cited. Remember, the narrower the topic, the more precise your search will become.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Broad topic</th>
<th>Number of Websites</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Automobiles</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Food</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>3. Computers</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>4. Illness</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>5. War</td>
<td></td>
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<td>6. Novels</td>
<td></td>
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<td>7. Animals</td>
<td></td>
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<td>8. Universe</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>9. Education</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>10. Newspapers</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Narrowed topic</th>
<th>Number of Websites</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
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<td>2.</td>
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<td>3.</td>
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<td>9.</td>
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<td>10.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Using Advanced Search

Using the 10 narrowed topics you came up with in the last exercise (Narrow Your Topic), use advanced search to narrow the number of websites cited. Using the chart below, tell how many websites were cited when using your narrowed topic and the number of websites cited when you used advanced search.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Narrowed Topic Number</th>
<th>Advanced Search Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
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<td>10</td>
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</table>
Fact, Opinion or Pseudo-Fact?

Blogs and dot-com sites often make statements that appear to be facts. A fact is a statement that can be verified by scientific inquiry or an event that has been observed and reported by reliable sources. For example, the statement that “Most people have eight fingers and two thumbs” can be verified by both observation and reliable scientific investigation. An opinion generally contains a statement that is a value judgment. That is, the statement depends on how a person views a particular event, product or person. People may agree or disagree, depending on their viewpoints. A declaration that, “This is the best car on the road” is an opinion because while some people may agree, others may not, depending on their viewpoint. A pseudo-fact is a statement that misleads people into thinking something is factual, but really isn’t. For instance, the statement that “4 out of 5 doctors recommend the Golly-Gosh Weight Reduction Plan” could lead one to think that 80% of all doctors in the world have recommended this product. But is it really all doctors? Very unlikely. Who exactly are those doctors? Were they paid for their endorsements? Read the statements below and tell whether it is a fact by placing an “F” on the line next to it; an opinion, by placing an “O” on the line next to it; or a pseudo-fact, by placing a “P” on the line next to it.

1. ___ There is one sun in our solar system.
2. ___ Most customers love our service.
3. ___ Latest poll results put our candidate in first place.
4. ___ The Flimflam Law Firm ranks number one.
5. ___ The Delta Overnight Rating Service places “BigShot” as the number one network TV show in the 8 PM time slot.
6. ___ You’ll find our tasty biscuits the best you’ve ever eaten.
7. ___ The Centers for Disease Control said today that about 4 million people have contracted the H1N1 virus.
8. ___ Jon Jones, candidate for county dogcatcher, is a joke.
9. ___ Marla Monsoon, running against Jon Jones for county dogcatcher, said today that Jones is a joke.
10. ___ 99% of our customers say they’ll come back for more!
Paraphrasing

Writing a report or term paper has several purposes. Among other things, it helps you learn how to organize your thoughts, how to use source material as well as learn something about your topic. As you saw, copying and pasting is a very bad idea because none of those purposes is achieved. Moreover, it's dishonest and can result in a failing grade. Paraphrasing – expressing the author's thoughts in your own words – is the best way to avoid copying. Paraphrasing often entails shortening and clarifying. Using two or three sentences, paraphrase each of the three quotes below on a separate piece of paper or on the back of this paper. Remember, use your own words.

The first vaccine was developed about 200 years ago by a British doctor, Edward Jenner. Late in the 18th century, Jenner noticed that people who came down with an illness called cowpox never contracted a much more serious disease, smallpox. Both diseases caused sores. But cowpox sores didn't cover the entire body, and they healed without deep scars, unlike those caused by smallpox. Cowpox was never fatal, but many smallpox patients died.

Crying is not the only mood-signal humans give, but it is one of the most basic. We share crying with thousands of other species. Virtually all mammals have high-pitched screams, squawks or shrieks when they are in pain or are frightened. Among higher mammals, messages of alarm are accompanied by what are called “fear faces.” Whether it's a young animal or an adult, these responses indicate that something is seriously wrong.

Four-year-olds have a lively mind and body. They surge ahead with bursts of movement and imagination. They enjoy running, hopping, jumping, skipping and climbing. And they can be very boastful, giving themselves praise for their newfound physical abilities. Those new abilities include tying shoes, cut on a line with scissors, saw with a hand saw and stand on one foot.
Internet Research Techniques Review Outline

Directions: Fill in the blank spaces in the outline.

II. Lesson One: Introduction and ___________________

A. Introduction

1. Definition of the Internet
   a. Network of _________ throughout world
   b. Enables people to __________
   c. Offers ____________, ________________, news and information

B. Browsers allow you to ______________ and navigate around it.

   1. Many excellent browsers
      a. _________________
      b. _________________
      c. _________________
      d. Opera
      e. Chrome

   2. Most widely used – ________________

C. Internet Explorer composition – ______________ above the web page

   1. Some give web page information
   2. Others allow users to ______________________________

D. Focus will be on tasks most useful to students

   1. Third tier – _________________________________
      a. _________ menu
      b. _________ menu
      c. _________ menu

   2. Fourth tier – favorites and "bookmarks"
Internet Research Techniques Review Outline, p. 2

a. Star favorites button, its tabs and what they do
   
   (1) favorites
   (2) history

2. Fifth tier – ________________________________
   
   a. First tab – _________________
   b. Opening additional tabs
      
      (1) Click small tab
      (2) How to get web pages in additional tabs
         
         (a) Select from _______________________
         (b) Select from _______________________
         (c) Type in address and click arrow to right

E. Word of warning – many versions of IE
   
   1. Use help menu
   2. Do some searching

II. Lesson II: ________________________________

A. Need help because ________________________ of web sites

B. Many excellent search engines
   
   1. __________
   2. Ask
   3. __________
   4. Dogpile
   5. __________

C. Most widely used – _________________

D. First thing to do – _________________

E. Use advanced search to _________________________

F. Use “find on this page”
III. Lesson III: Being selective

A. Garbage in, garbage ________
   1. Bad information means _______________
   2. Stay away from _______________ websites
      a. _______________
      b. ____________________________

B. Most web sites not reviewed for accuracy and balance

C. Generally reliable sites
   1. ____________________________
   2. ____________________________
   3. Dot-gov sites
      a. Statistical information
      b. _____________ information
      c. Scientific information
      d. _____________ information

IV. Lesson IV: Copying

A. Why it’s a bad idea
   1. ____________________________
   2. Being dishonest
   3. ____________________________
   4. Failing grade
   5. ____________________________
   6. Defeats purpose of the assignment

B. When it’s okay to quote
   1. Limited amount
   2. Give source
Part I

Directions: Put a “T” next to all true statements and an “F” next to all false statements.

___ 1. The Internet enables people to communicate instantaneously.
___ 2. Most people know how to use the Internet to its maximum benefit.
___ 3. A browser gets you onto the web and lets you navigate around it.
___ 4. Google is the most widely used browser.
___ 5. When turned on, Internet Explorer has five tiers that lie at the bottom of the web page.

Part II

Directions: Fill in the blank.

1. The three things you can do under the file menu are ______________,___________________________ and ________________________.
2. The menu bar is on the ___________________ tier of Internet Explorer.
3. Emailing a web page or its link can be especially useful whenever you’re ________________________________.
4. “Bookmarked” websites are those selected for ________________.
5. Cutting and pasting are ideal when you want to __________________.

Part III

Directions: Define the terms.

1. Pull-down ____________________________
2. Citation______________________________
3. Search Engine _________________________
4. Search Box____________________________
5. Domain_______________________________
Part IV

Directions: Draw a line from the task or tab to what it’s good for.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Task or tab</th>
<th>What it’s good for</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Copy-paste</td>
<td>Instant retrieval</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Send link</td>
<td>Finding websites not bookmarked</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bookmark</td>
<td>Quoting accurately</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>File folder</td>
<td>Keeping needed websites handy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>History</td>
<td>Group projects</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Part V

Directions: Circle the letter next to the phrase that best completes the sentence.

1. A report writer’s best friend is
   a. Internet Explorer’s history tab.
   b. Google’s advanced search capabilities.
   c. a dot-gov site that gives scientifically verified data.

2. Three sites that generally offer reliable information are
   a. dot-com, dot-org and dot-edu sites.
   b. blogs, dot-com and dot-gov sites.
   c. dot-org, dot-edu and dot-gov sites.

3. Three reasons it’s a bad idea to copy and paste large sections into a report are
   a. it’s dishonest, it can result in a failing grade, you learn very little
   b. it’s dishonest, it slows your progress, you will be expelled.
   c. It’s dishonest, your teacher will know, it’s too easy.