“More is More and Less is a Bore”
— Iris Apfel

An ELL Honors Guide to Sources and Effective Searching

Raven Sim | raven@nus.edu.sg
Learning Outcomes

1. Identify the different library sources relevant to ELL topics.
2. Learn strategies to enhance your search and retrieve relevant information.
3. Have an activity to ensure you were paying attention.
What We’ll Learn

I. Where Exactly to Search
II. How to Search Better — Techniques
III. How to Search Better — Tools
IV. Activity
Where Exactly to Search, or How Much Google Can Help
Main Library Sources

FindMore
For an overview of everything within the library’s collection

LINC (Library Catalog)
For specific titles except articles

Databases
For eBooks, eJournals, and online articles relevant to your topic
FindMore — The Quick Search
Filter your search using the left panel

Format your saved search results based on the citation format that you want.
LINC — The ‘Old-School’ Search
Interpreting LINC — Journals

Online access via:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NUS Libraries</th>
<th>Wiley Online Library journals</th>
<th>v1 (01 Jan. 1997)-</th>
<th>About this E-Resource</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NUS Libraries</td>
<td>EBSCO (1-yr embargo applies)</td>
<td>01 Feb. 1997 - 23 Aug. 2018</td>
<td>About this E-Resource</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Print version

LOCATION | CALL # | STACK# | STATUS
---------|--------|--------|--------
Central Library Closed Stacks (Loans Desk) | P40 JS v1 1997 | D307833 | REQUEST ITEM |
Central Library Closed Stacks (Loans Desk) | P40 JS v2 1998 | D307880 | REQUEST ITEM |
Central Library Closed Stacks (Loans Desk) | P40 JS v3 1999 | D307881 | REQUEST ITEM |
Central Library Closed Stacks (Loans Desk) | P40 JS v4 2000 | D307868 | REQUEST ITEM |
Central Library Closed Stacks (Loans Desk) | P40 JS v5 2001 | D307867 | REQUEST ITEM |
Central Library Closed Stacks (Loans Desk) | P40 JS v6 2002 | D307869 | REQUEST ITEM |
Central Library Closed Stacks (Loans Desk) | P40 JS v7 2003 | 437816 | REQUEST ITEM |

Archived print versions of older volumes in the library closed stacks

Descrip. | v. : ill.
Frequency | Three times a year
Pub Date  | Vol. 1, no. 1 (Feb. 1997)-
Interpreting LINC — Books

Routledge handbook of cosmopolitanism studies

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LOCATION</th>
<th>CALL #</th>
<th>STACK#</th>
<th>STATUS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CL Books</td>
<td>JZ1308 Rou 2012</td>
<td></td>
<td>AVAILABLE</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Databases — The Focused Search
Why bother when there’s FindMore and LINC?

Because FindMore can be ‘find-too-much’ and LINC can sometimes find nothing.
Recommended Databases (ELL)

- Drama Online
- Literature Online (LION)
- Communication and Mass Media Complete (CMMC)
- Performing Arts Periodicals Database (PAPD)
- Digital Theatre Plus
- MLA International Bibliography
Recommended Databases
(Beyond ELL, But Still Relevant)

- Project Muse
- JSTOR
- Humanities Abstracts
- Humanities International Complete
- ScholarBank@NUS
- ProQuest Dissertations and Theses (PQDT) Online
DB #1: MLA International Bibliography

• Scholarly articles covering different aspects of literature, including:
  ▪ Modern literature
  ▪ Literary theory and criticism
  ▪ Rhetoric and composition
  ▪ Folklore

• Also covers topics in linguistics, language teaching, and performance
Click on the Find It! @ NUS Libraries button to see if this article could be found elsewhere within the library collection.

Choose your results and format them based on your preferred citation style.
DB #2: Communication and Mass Media Complete

- Comprehensive on secondary sources covering media studies, linguistics, rhetoric, and discourse topics
- Good for case studies on the persona, authenticity, or language analyses
   Subjects: Korean language; English language; Music industry; Multiculturalism; Korean pop music
   Conference PDF Full Text (196KB)

2. How to drop a name: Hybridity, purity, and the K-pop fan.
   DOI: 10.1080/00474045.2016.1248486.
   Subjects: Language & culture; Cultural fusion; Korea (South); Korean pop music; Popular music instruction; YouTube (Web resource) -- Social aspects

   DOI: 10.1080/07963181.2017.1342553.
   Subjects: Foreign language education; Adult education; Language Schools; Korean language -- Study & teaching; Korean language students; Bilingual education -- Australia; Language ability; Adults
DB #3: Literature Online (LION)

- Works like a directory or encyclopaedia that includes:
  - Author information
  - Author’s works and criticism
  - Reference articles about the author and/or his works
- More than 350,000 works of English and American poetry, prose, and drama
Morrison, Toni

Also known as: Wofford, Chloe Anthony
Date of Birth/Death: 1931-2019
Gender: Female
Nationality: American/ North American
Ethnicity: African-American
Literary period: American Confessional Period, 1960;
Postwar Period, 1945-1999;
Twentieth Century, 1900-1999;
Twenty-First Century, 2000-
Literary movement: Feminist Writers, 1990;
Postmodernism 1983-

'Being a writer she thinks of language partly as a system, partly as a living thing over which one has control, but mostly as agency – as an act with consequences' (Nobel Lecture, 7 December 1993). Nobel Prize-winning writer Toni Morrison (1931-) is describing here the wisdom of an old black woman of slave background and her measured response to alienation, but the quotation also very nearly summarises the ethos of Morrison’s own writing and her sense of responsibility to resist the negating force of sanctioned speech. She speaks the 'unspeakable' of black American past and present, rejecting the 'voice of speechlessness, of disabled and disabling language' (Nobel Lecture).

... Read full biography from Literature Online ...

RECENT CRITICISM

1. Polyphony of Toni Morrison's A Mercy: The Fugal Form

RELEVANT REFERENCE WORKS

1. Baldwin and Yoran Cazace's 'Child's Story for Adults'
2. History's Dark Markings: Faulkner and Film's Racial Representation
DB #4: Performing Arts Periodicals Database

- Covers a broad spectrum of the arts and entertainment industry, including:
  - Dance
  - Drama
  - Theater
  - Stagecraft
- Coverage from 1864 to present
15,087 results

Sorted by
- Relevance

Limit to
- Full text
- Peer reviewed

Source type
- Scholarly Journals (6,353)
- Books (3)
- Newspapers (1,231)
- Magazines (4,008)
- Trade Journals (3,472)

Publication date
- 1965 - 2019 (decades)

1. British South Asian Theatres: A Documented History (with accompanying DVD) / Critical Essays on British South Asian Theatre
   - Mahmudali, Hassan
   - Asian Theatre
   - Critical Essays on British South Asian Theatre
   - Reading British South Asian Theatres: A Documented History and...
   - Full text - PDF (78 KB)

   - Mahmudali, Hassan
   - Asian Theatre
   - Critical Essays on British South Asian Theatre
   - Reading British South Asian Theatres: A Documented History and its...
   - Full text - PDF (78 KB)

3. Theater of Transposition: Charles Dullin and the East Asian Theater
   - Theater's interculturization of the East Asian Theater, Dullin incorporated the...
   - Full text - PDF (489 KB)
DB #5: Drama Online

- Contains both primary and secondary sources all about drama
  - Videos
  - Audio books
  - eBooks
  - Playtexts
- Mainly Anglo-American content for now, but adding Asian content
DB #6: Digital Theatre+

- Contains both primary and secondary sources about British and American theater
  - Plays
  - Behind-the-scenes interviews
  - eBooks
  - Teaching guides
How to Search Better (Techniques)
Again, Why Bother?

that which is relevant

that which is not

© Marc Johns
A Search Plan For Your Topic

- Identify keywords
- List similar keywords
- Refine search string
- Create search string
- Apply Boolean searching

Having a search plan helps make your search more focused. Combine your search plan with the library sources to get the best number of relevant results.
1 Identify the Keywords

Graphic novels in culture and society

graphic
novels
culture
society

These are the words that form the essence of your topic.
List Possible Synonyms and/or Similar Words

Graphic novels in culture and society

Authors may use different words to describe the same thing.
Booleans AND/OR

**AND** retrieves results containing **all** keywords

→ Narrows your search
→ Fewer results

**OR** retrieves results containing **any** of the keywords

→ Widens your search
→ More results
3 Phrase Searching " "

- graphic novel (59,778 results)
- “graphic novel” (1,486 results)

- persona construction (199,830 results)
- “persona construction” (115 results)

Ensures that your keywords appear exactly beside each other.
# 3 Truncation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Root Word with Truncation</th>
<th>Results Retrieved</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>societ*</td>
<td>society, societies, societal…</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>phonolog*</td>
<td>phonology, persongical, phonologist…</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>roman*</td>
<td>Romans, romance, romanticism…</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note the placement of the *, but have fun nonetheless!
Grouping ( )

("graphic novel" OR "comic book") AND culture

The results retrieved will be based on the grouped keywords first.
Create Search String

- graphic novels, comic book, illustrated book
- culture
- society, social

AND, OR, “ ”, ( )

(“graphic novel” OR “comic book” OR “illustrated book”)
AND
cultur*
AND
(societ* OR social)

Combine your keywords with the suitable Booleans to create your search string.
Start with a simple search string e.g. with keywords, and the Booleans AND/OR. Add the other Booleans to see what other results you get. Experiment and explore — there is no right or wrong answer!

Examples:
- graphic novels culture society
- ("graphic novel" or "comic book" or "illustrated book") and cultur* and (societ* or social)
- cultur* and social and “comic book”
- ("comic book" or graphic) and culture and society
How to Search Better (Tools)
Proxy Bookmarklet

Installing the proxy bookmarklet

Your VIP pass to access full-text E-Resources subscribed by NUS

Google this article and try accessing it.

Dramatic Monologue, Detective Fiction, and the Search for Meaning

Next, append the proxy bookmarklet and see what happens.
Find It! with Google Scholar

Find It! @ NUS Libraries also works in Google Scholar.

Search this article using these keywords:
language policy Singapore

And then, set up Find It! in Google Scholar and see what happens to your search results.
ELL Subject Guides

Includes all the library sources that were covered today, and more.

English Language
English Literature
Theater Studies
Citation Managers

NUS Libraries officially supports EndNote, but we also include information on Mendeley and Zotero.

Look out for the library’s citation workshops every semester.
BrowZine

- Browse
- Read
- Download
- Save
- Share

Journal articles from the library’s collection from the BrowZine app all on your mobile device

NUS BrowZine LibGuide
j.mp/RU_feedback

Thank you so much for your time!