Pre-test: Information Literacy

Please circle the appropriate answer for each question. This test is not graded and is for your use only.

1. Which three things should you consider when evaluating a website?

    a. Navigation, structure and format
    b. Authority, purpose and currency
    c. Layout, Graphics and Publisher
    d. None of the above

2. Which of the following is a characteristic of scholarly journals?

    a. Reports on current events
    b. Usually published weekly
    c. Articles include bibliographies or references
    d. Normally read by the general public

3. When searching the Internet you should keep in mind...

    a. That you can find any information online if you just search long enough
    b. That banner ads and chat rooms will often lead you to the best quality information
    c. That because of copyright laws, nothing worthwhile is ever published on the Internet
    d. That not all online sources provide reliable or authoritative information

4. The area of the library where you would go to get help with a strategy for a research project is:

    a. Special Collections
    b. Reference
    c. Circulation
    d. Periodicals

5. Information literacy is a term that best applies to:

    a. college students learning to improve their research skills
    b. lifelong learners in any number of learning situations
    c. librarians designing interactive instruction tools
    d. both a and b

6. You must cite your source used in a research paper if:

    a. The source was quoted word for word
    b. Only the *idea* was used in the paper, the words were changed
    c. The source was from a web page
    d. All of the above

7. Which is the best strategy when you find too much information?

    a. Broaden your question
    b. Narrow your question
    c. Change your topic
    d. Only use the first few results

Post-test: Information Literacy

Please circle the appropriate answer for each question. This test is not graded and is for your use only.

1. Most library databases and Internet search engines allow you to search in both basic and advanced modes. The advanced mode allows you to perform more complex searches. One such complex search methodology is referred to as a Boolean searching. Boolean searching allows you to add the words (known as operators) AND, OR and NOT. What do each of these operators do?

    a. AND broadens search results   b. AND narrows search results
    c. OR broadens search results   d. OR narrows search results
    e. NOT broadens search results   f. NOT narrows search results

2. Library classification systems arrange books on the library shelves by?

    a. Author   b. Format   c. Year of Publication   d. Subject

3. Information literacy can be thought of as:

    a. learning how to learn
    b. improving research skills
    c. selecting, evaluating and synthesizing sources to create knowledge
    d. all of the above

4. Your instructor has asked you to write a paper based on current scholarly information. What would be the most appropriate source to use?

    a. Journals   b. Newspapers   c. Email   d. Magazines   e. Books

5. Which of the following does not indicate an author (print or web-based) would serve as an objective source?

    a. Author's arguments were supported by facts
    b. Opposing points of view are addressed
    c. Author uses inflammatory language to arouse bias
    d. Opinions are not disguised as facts but supported with research

6. Scholarly or peer-reviewed publications are defined as those that:

    a. Report and document the details of original research.
    b. Writing style appeals to professionals in that field, not to the general public.
    c. Contains few, if any, color images and maintains a serious appearance.
    d. All of the above   f. None of the above

7. Which of the following is false? Writing down citations for books is important because:

    a. You'll need to know the title, author and call number when you locate the book on the shelf.
    b. You've placed quotation marks to indicate the author's words were used, so don't need to cite the source.
    c. You'll need to include this information in the list of references for your research paper.
    d. This information helps others find the sources you've referenced in your paper.