# **HWC Information Literacy Assessment Tool**

#### Intro:

IMPORTANT NOTE: IF YOU HAVE ALREADY TAKEN THIS ASSESSMENT, PLEASE DO NOT TAKE IT AGAIN.

Thank you SO MUCH for volunteering to participate in the HWC Information Literacy Assessment of 2014.

Your participation will help to inform curriculum development, pedagogical practices, and policy decisions at Harold Washington College. Your responses will remain anonymous and will only be used in the aggregate.

Please answer the following questions honestly and based on your own knowledge, without any help from other people or resources. The assessment should take about 15 minutes. We hope that you will complete the entire survey, but you have the right to stop answering questions at any time.

The following questions are based in part on a tool created by NILRC (Network of Illinois Learning Resources in Community Colleges) with funding from IMLS (Institute of Museum and Library Services).

If you have questions or concerns about this assessment process, please contact Carrie Nepstad, Chair of the HWC Assessment Committee at cnepstad@ccc.edu or call 312-553-6095.

I have read the above statement and consent to continue. (Fill in This Bubble to Show Consent) o

## **Research Practices:**

- 1. Rate your confidence in your ability to find the information you need using technology. (Not at All Confident, Slightly Confident, Moderately Confident, Very Confident, Extremely Confident)
- 2. When selecting sources of information for a research paper, do you take into account the authority or credibility of the source before you decide whether to cite it in your work? (Never, Rarely, Sometimes, Usually, Always)
- 3. When needing to do research, how often do you use each of the following:
  - a. Books in a library (Never, Rarely, Sometimes, Usually, Always)
  - b. Google (Never, Rarely, Sometimes, Usually, Always)
  - c. Google Scholar (Never, Rarely, Sometimes, Usually, Always)
  - d. Library Databases (Never, Rarely, Sometimes, Usually, Always)
  - e. Wikipedia (Never, Rarely, Sometimes, Usually, Always)

- 4. Rate your confidence in the following skills:
  - a. Formatting citations using MLA or APA style on a works cited page or reference list. (Not at All Confident, Slightly Confident, Moderately Confident, Very Confident, Extremely Confident)
  - b. Formatting MLA or APA in-text parenthetical citations. (Not at All Confident, Slightly Confident, Moderately Confident, Very Confident, Extremely Confident)
- 5. What have you used library databases to find? Choose as many as apply, or leave blank if none.
  - a. Academic journals (such as from EBSCO or JSTOR)
  - b. Biographical information (such as from Current Biography)
  - c. Digital images (such as from ARTstor or CAMIO)
  - d. Ebooks (such as from Opposing Viewpoints or EBSCO)
  - e. Information from encyclopedias or dictionaries (such as from Gale Virtual Reference Library or Oxford English Dictionary)
  - f. Literary criticism (such as from Gale Literature Resource Center)
  - g. Newspapers or other periodicals (such as from Proquest)
- 6. What resources have you used to read or download an ebook? Choose as many as apply, or leave blank if none.
  - a. Amazon.com
  - b. Archive.org
  - c. EBSCO Ebooks
  - d. Google Books
  - e. Opposing Viewpoints
  - f. Project Gutenberg
  - g. Other (textbox)
- 7. What resources have you used to help with formatting citations? Choose as many as apply, or leave blank if none.
  - a. Citation Machine Web site
  - b. Help from instructor
  - c. Help from HWC Librarian
  - d. Help from HWC Writing Lab
  - e. Purdue OWL (Online Writing Lab) Web site
  - f. Style Manual (APA, Chicago, MLA, etc.)
  - g. Other (textbox)

# **Knowledge:**

- 8. For an MLA research-based paper, what is a Works Cited page?
  - a. A list of the sources that were found when the writer researched his/her topic.
  - b. A list that shows which sources were included and documented in the paper.
  - c. A list that shows the descriptions of the sources that the writer used.
  - d. A list that shows titles of books on the same subject.

For the next two questions use the following MLA citation for a journal article from a library subscription database.

Cassidy, Wanda, Chantal Faucher, and Margaret Jackson. "Cyberbullying among Youth: A

Comprehensive Review of Current International Research and its Implications and

Application to Policy and Practice." School Psychology International 34.6 (2013):

575-612. Academic Search Complete. Web. 20 Mar. 2014.

- 9. Using the above citation, determine the name of the library subscription database that the journal article is from.
  - a. Chantal Faucher
  - b. School Psychology International
  - c. Academic Search Complete
  - d. Cyberbullying among Youth
- 10. Using the same above citation as the previous question, determine the article's year of publication.
  - a. 2014
  - b. It has not yet been published
  - c. 2013
  - d. The citation does not list the year of publication
- 11. You are asked to write a three-page research paper on the following question: "Should colleges be allowed to restrict student speech?" Which of the following two keywords entered into a search engine will most likely give results relating to your research question?
  - a. College and censorship
  - b. College and student
  - c. College and speech
  - d. College and restriction
- 12. Suppose you need to write a 5-page report on Abraham Lincoln's struggles to enact legislation. Based on the title, which of the following books will most likely give you the information you need?
  - a. Lincoln at Gettysburg: The Words that Remade America, by Garry Wills
  - b. Lincoln and Freedom: Slavery, Emancipation, and the Thirteenth Amendment, edited by Harold Holzer and Sara Vaughn Gabbard
  - c. Abraham Lincoln: Vampire Hunter, by Seth Grahame-Smith
  - d. Recollected Words of Abraham Lincoln, edited by Don E. Fehrenbacher and Virginia Fehrenbacher
- 13. You are helping a friend who is new to college to learn about medical viruses for a presentation she is doing for her English class. Which publication would suggest that she use to learn more about viruses?
  - a. Journal of Anthropology
  - b. T.V. Guide
  - c. Nature
  - d. USA Today

14. Consider the online catalog entry below for a library book that you want to check out.

Author Grisham, John.

Title The pelican brief/John Grisham. Pub/date New York: Doubleday, c1992.

LOCATION CALL NUMBER STATUS
Circulation Materials PS 3557 .R5355 P4 1992 Available

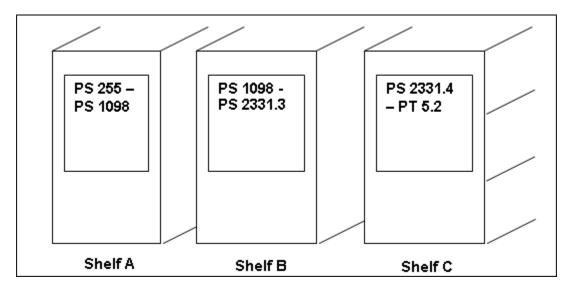
Edition 1st ed. Description 371 p.;24 cm.

Subject United States Supreme Court – Fiction.

ISBN 0385421981; 038542354 (lg. print);

Which of the following is the most important piece of information needed for locating the book on the shelf?

- a. Author
- b. Call number
- c. ISBN
- d. Title
- 15. The drawing below represents bookshelves in the library. The book you need for class has the call number PS 2602 1996. On which shelf is this book?



- a. Shelf A
- b. Shelf B
- c. Shelf C
- d. None of the above

16. This question refers to the following situation. You are writing a research paper for your history class exploring whether or not George Washington had wooden teeth. You have decided to use the following four search terms in your search: George, Washington, wooden, teeth.

After entering your search terms (George, Washington, wooden, teeth) into a Web search engine, you retrieved the results below. Which of the four listed results would most likely contain the best information for your history paper?

- a. "George Washington's Wooden Teeth."

  Quick History Facts--http://www.freewebspace.com/woodenteeth
- b. "George Washington's Wooden Teeth."

  Department of History--http://www.harvard.edu/historydepartment/myth
- c. "George Washington's Wooden Teeth."

  Daily Factoid--http://www.usatoday.com/dailyfactoids/George-Washington-teeth
- d. "George Washington's Wooden Teeth."Online Auctions—http://www.buyonline.com/noveltyitems/woodenteeth
- 17. You are writing a report on automobile tires and safety. You have found several sources. Which would be most likely to provide unbiased, factual information?
  - a. Report from an automobile manufacturer association
  - b. Survey from a tire company
  - c. Article in a consumer reporting magazine
  - d. Article in a sports magazine

## **Demographics:**

- 18. What is your gender?
  - a. Female
  - b. Male
  - c. Other
- 19. Select one designation from the following list:
  - a. American Indian or Alaskan Native
  - b. Asian
  - c. Black or African American
  - d. Hispanic/Latino
  - e. Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
  - f. White
  - g. Multi-racial (Specify if you wish) (text box)

20. What is your age?	
a.	20 or Less
b.	21-30
C.	31-39
d.	40 or Greater
21. Please indicate your current academic status at HWC.	
a.	Full Time
b.	Part Time
	nany credit hours have you successfully completed at HWC (a final grade of A, B or C from courses
	ered 101 or above)?
	0-15
	16-30
	31-45
	46-60
e.	61 or Greater
23. How many credit hours have you successfully completed at other colleges or universities (a final grade of A, B or C from courses numbered 101 or above)?	
	0-15
	16-30
	31-45
	46-60
	61 or Greater
C.	of or Greater
24. What	is highest level of English you are currently in or have completed with a C or higher?
a.	English 98
	English 99
	English 100
	English 101
e.	English 102
25. Do you	u have a disability?
a.	No
b.	Yes
26. Did yo	u just finish participating in an HWC Library orientation before doing this survey?
	No
b.	Yes
27. Feel free to share any comments you have about this survey that you want us to know. (big text box)	

# **Confirmation Page:**

Please *keep* this page or take a phone picture of it to keep in case you need to show proof that you completed this.

You are now finished! Thank you SO MUCH for your participation in the HWC Information Literacy Assessment of 2014. This will greatly help HWC in working toward improving student learning.

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