

Aubri Drake

ILS 504: Reference and Information Resources and Services
Exercise 1: Online and Local Library Visits for Identifying Reference Sources and Reference Services (Due Feb. 14, 2011)

A. IPL Ready Reference Listing

1. Almanac

Old Farmer's Almanac. (2010). Retrieved on February 4, 2011 from <http://www.almanac.com/>

Description:

Covers astronomical events, weather conditions and forecasts, recipes, and gardening tips.

Creator:

[Yankee Publishing Inc.](http://www.yankee-publishing.com/)

Language:

English

2. Associations & Organizations

Idealist. (2010). Retrieved on February 4, 2011 from <http://www.idealists.org/>

Description:

A searchable directory of nearly 50,000 nonprofit organizations in over 160 countries. Individuals can find jobs, volunteer opportunities, internships, programs, campaigns, and events. Nonprofit and community-based organizations can find consultants, freelancers, and other resources. Available in English, Spanish, and French. From the nonprofit organization Action Without Borders, whose mission is "to find practical solutions to social and environmental problems, in a spirit of generosity and mutual respect."

Publisher:

Action Without Borders, Inc.

Language:

English , Spanish , French

Geographic coverage:

Europe

3. Biographies

Find a Grave. (n.d). Retrieved on February 4, 2011 from <http://www.findagrave.com/>

Description:

Information about "Where everybody who was anybody is buried..." Includes photos. It's searchable by name, location, birthdates and death dates, and "claim to fame."

Creator:

[Jim Tipton](#)

Language:

English

4. Calculation & Conversion Tools

Travel Tools. (2002). Retrieved on February 4, 2011 from <http://www.tyzo.com/tools/>

Description:

A series of helpful tools for use by international travelers, including a world public holidays calendar, a currency converter, maps, a metric converter, weather sites, electricity requirements (by continent and country), dialing codes, a international clothing size chart, and a time zone clock.

Creator:

[Tyzo.com, Inc.](#)

Language:

English

5. Calendars

Wolfram Alpha. (2011). Retrieved on February 4, 2011 from <http://www.wolframalpha.com/>

Description:

Wolfram Alpha quickly locates facts, graphs, definitions, tables, numbers, formulas, and other data. Use the "Examples" page to browse and see all the different topics covered.

Creator:

[Wolfram, Stephen](#)

Publisher:

Wolfram Alpha LLC

Language:

English

6. Census Data & Demographics

U.S. Census Bureau. (2011). *American Fact Finder*. Retrieved on February 4, 2011 from http://factfinder.census.gov/home/saff/main.html?_lang=en

Description:

The American FactFinder "provides useful facts and information about your community, your economy, and your society." Browse or search for information about states, cities, counties, and other communities of varying sizes. Find helpful maps, and check out the U.S. population clock!

Creator:

[U.S. Census Bureau](#)

Language:
English

7. Dictionaries

Dictionary.com. (2011). Retrieved on February 4, 2011 from
<http://dictionary.reference.com/>

Description:

"Dictionary.com is the best general English-language dictionary online. Its simple search form hides a sophisticated multi-source search of Webster's Revised Unabridged Dictionary, WordNet, The Free Online Dictionary of Computing, Jargon File, The Elements, Easton's 1897 Bible Dictionary, Hitchcock's Bible Names Dictionary, U.S. Gazetteer, and the CIA World Factbook. Links on Dictionary.com's home page lead to thousands of other English dictionaries (including WWWebster Dictionary), jargon dictionaries, writers' dictionaries, non-English dictionaries, and other language resources."

Creator:

[Lexico Publishing Group, LLC](#)

Language:
English

8. Encyclopedias

Encyclopedia.com. (2011). Retrieved on February 4, 2011 from
<http://www.encyclopedia.com/>

Description:

Free access to reference works such as The Columbia Encyclopedia, Oxford's World Encyclopedia, and the Encyclopedia of World Biography and many others. Contains free citations and excerpts to periodical articles. You have to pay money to read full text of articles.

Publisher:

HighBeam Research

Language:
English

9. Experts & How-To

So You Wanna. (2011). Retrieved on February 4, 2011 from
<http://www.soyouwanna.com/>

Description:

SoYouWanna.Com provides step-by-step advice for doing everything from joining the CIA to converting to Buddhism. The writing style can be humorous, but the advice is real.

Language:
English

10. Genealogy

Ellis Island Foundation. (2010). Retrieved on February 4, 2011 from
<http://www.ellisland.org/default.asp>

Description:

This site provides free searches of Ellis Island passenger lists, offers free genealogy charts and family history materials.

Creator:

[The Statue of Liberty-Ellis Island Foundation, Inc.](#)

Language:

English

11. Geography

Map Machine Atlas. (2010). Retrieved on February 4, 2011 from

<http://maps.nationalgeographic.com/map-machine#s=r&c=43.749999999999996,-99.710000000000001&z=3>

Description:

"The Map Machine Atlas offers maps, flags, facts, and profiles for the countries of the world and the U.S. states."

Creator:

[National Geographic Society](#)

Publisher:

National Geographic Society

Language:

English

12. Grammars

The Tongue Untied. (2008). Retrieved on February 4, 2011 from

<http://www.grammaruntied.com/>

Description:

Resource provides "instruction in basic grammar, sentence structure and word choice, as well as rules for punctuation" for the English Language. Provides information on a variety of common grammar problems.

Creator:

[Weinhold, Kellee](#)

Language:

English

13. News & Current Events

News Now. (2011). Retrieved on February 4, 2011 from

<http://www.newsnow.co.uk/h/>

Description:

Offers current world news from several international Internet publications in multiple languages.

Creator:

[NewsNow Publishing Limited](#)

Publisher:

NewsNow Publishing Limited

14. Periodical Directories

Find Articles. (2010). Retrieved on February 4, 2011 from <http://findarticles.com/>

Description:

This intensive archive contains articles dating back to 1984 from several hundred magazines and journals. Search for articles by topic: Arts & Entertainment, Automotive, Business & Finance, Computers & Technology, Health & Fitness, Home & Garden, News & Society, Reference & Education, and Sports.

Creator:

[FindArticles](#)

Publisher:

LookSmart, Ltd.

Language:

English

15. Quotations

Quotation Center. (2010). Retrieved on February 4, 2011 from <http://www.cybernation.com/index.php>

Description:

Over 13,000 "great quotes to inspire, empower and motivate you to live the life of your dreams and become the person you've always wanted to be!" The quotations are arranged by author or subject (over 900) or can be searched by keyword.

Creator:

[Cyber Nation International, Inc.](#)

Language:

English

16. Style & Writing Guides

Degelman, D. (2010). APA Style Essentials. Retrieved on February 4, 2011 from <http://www.vanguard.edu/Home/AcademicResources/Faculty/DougDegelman/APAStyleEssentials.aspx>

Description:

A great resource, if you are looking for a easy to use, effective and concise APA Style Guide. There are many examples, and coverage of all parts of the proper way to format your paper in APA style. This is a very thorough resource, which will assist you with your APA citing needs.

Creator:

[Degelman, Douglas](#)

Publisher:

Vanguard University of Southern California

Language:

English

17. Telephone & Address

How to Call Abroad. (2011). Retrieved on February 4, 2011 from
<http://www.howtocallabroad.com/>

Description:

Don't let calling abroad confuse you! This site provides "comprehensive and up to date information on how to dial internationally from the USA, Canada or from any other country. Telephone country codes and international area codes are displayed by country, with additional info featured such as city and cellular codes".

Publisher:

Howtocallabroad.com

Language:

English

18. Time & Weather

AccuWeather. (2011). Retrieved on February 4, 2011 from
<http://www.accuweather.com/>

Description:

Weather forecasts (5 and 10 days) and current conditions for the United States and the world. Plus special weather sections for home, travel, health, marine, golf, gardening, aviation, and agriculture. Also features astronomical timetables (sun, moon and planet rises and sets).

Creator:

[AccuWeather, Inc](http://www.accuweather.com/)

Language:

English

19. Trivia

Swishweb.com. (2005). Retrieved on February 4, 2011 from
<http://www.factophile.com/show.content>

Description:

Swishweb.com provides an interesting array of information on trivia, be it general or related to specific topics such as art and culture, nature, history, sports, or religions. This site is also the home of a the Trivial Knowledge Challenge, described as a chance to "test your knowledge about science, movies, geography, food, and more." Registration is optional, and players are allowed to submit their own questions.

Creator:

[Stephane Theroux](#)

Language:
English

B. Check and review the **reference collection** from [Russell Library, Middletown, CT] using the same 19 categories as found on IPL.

1. **Almanacs**

Thomas, R. (2011). *The Old Farmer's Almanac*. Dublin, NH: Yankee. (REF 082 THO)

2. **Associations and organizations**

National Trade and Professional Associations of the United States. (2010). Washington, DC: Columbia. (REF 650.1025 NAT)

3. **Biographies**

Webster's American Military Biographies. (1978). Springfield, MA: G. & C. Merriam Co. (REF 923.5 WEB)

4. **Calculations and conversion tools**

Instant Metric Conversion Tables. (1975). Northbrook, IL: Domus Books. (REF 389 INS)

5. **Calendars**

Chase's Calendar of Events. (2011). Chicago, IL: Contemporary Books. (REF 529.3 CHA)

6. **Census data and demographics**

The Changing Demographics of Connecticut. (2003). Storrs, CT: Center for Population Research, University of Connecticut. (REF 312.0974 CHA)

7. **Dictionaries**

Dalzel, T. (Ed.) (2009). *The Routledge dictionary of modern American slang and unconventional English*. New York: Routledge. (REF 427.09 ROU)

8. **Encyclopedias**

Encyclopedia of World Dress and Fashion. (2010). Oxford ; New York : Oxford University Press. (REF 391.003 ENC)

9. **Experts and how-to**

Cassell, J. (2006). *Do-it-yourself Home Improvement : a step-by-step guide*. New York, N.Y.: Dorling Kindersley. (643.7 CAS)

10. **Genealogy**

The F. F. Starr Genealogy Collection. (1991). Middletown, CT: Russell Library. (REF 929.2 FFS)

11. **Geography**

Atlas of Exploration. (1997). New York, N.Y.: Oxford University Press. (REF 911 OXF)

12. **Grammars**

Diamond, H. (2005). *Grammar in Plain English*. Hauppauge, N.Y.: Barron's. (428.2 DIA)

14. Periodical directories

Ulrich's Periodicals Directory. (2010). New Providence, NJ: R.R. Bowker. (REF 050.25 ULR).

15. Quotations

Library of Congress. (2010). *Respectfully Quoted: a dictionary of quotations*. Mineola, NY: Dover Publications, Inc. (808.8 RES)

16. Style and writing guides

American Psychological Association. (2005). *Concise Rules of APA Style*. Washington, DC : American Psychological Association. (REF 808.0661 CON)

17. Telephone and address

Clinton, Guilford, Madison Telephone Directory. (1990). New Haven, CT: Southern New England Telephone. (REF 317.46 CON)

18. Time and weather

Burt, C. (2004). *Extreme Weather: a guide and record book*. New York, NY: W.W. Norton. (551.5 BUR)

19. Trivia

Abate, F. (2001). *Connecticut Trivia*. Nashville, TN: Rutledge Hill Press. (974.6 CON)

C. Make a list of categories not found for any of the 19 categories reference materials that you could not find.

13. News and current events

There were plenty of books about politics and current events but they were all either opinion pieces or were about older events (pre-1990's) and there were no recent books in the reference section regarding current events.

D. Identify and list ONE title not listed on IPL but found in your local library's reference sources.

1. Ethnic Reference Books

New York Public Library African American Desk Reference. (1999). New York, NY: J. Wiley & Sons. (REF 973.0496 NEW)

2. Reference Work

Ford, C. (2008). *Crash Course in Reference*. Westport, CT: Libraries Unlimited. (REF 025.52 FOR)

3. Natural Medicine

Foster, S. (2006). *Desk Reference to Nature's Medicine*. Washington, D.C.: National Geographic Society. (REF 615.321 FOS)

4. Psychological Reference

American Psychological Association. (1980). *Quick Reference to the Diagnostic Criteria from DSM-III*. Washington, DC: American Psychological Association. (REF 616.89075 AME)

E. Interview a professional (reference) librarian (e.g. MLS degree holder) in the local library and asking the following questions:

a. How many User Groups have been identified in this library?

Four: Adult, Older Adult, Young Adult, Children

b. Which user group(s) are using the library's reference services mostly? For what special reference information needs?

Adults. The questions are generally literature or information based (e.g. title of a book).

c. What types of reference services are provided in this library?

Employment support (resumes, networking, etc), information literacy courses, and software classes.

d. How do the library users ask their reference questions and receive reference services?

Walk-in/in person, phone, and email.

e. Does the library participate in any cooperative library reference services?

No.