

Information Literacy 1 Open Course Ware

Answers and feedback sheet Level 2

Exercise 1

Q1. What are the words or phrases you could use as search term/synonym for this key concept?

- Of course, "self healing", "self-healing", "self repairing" and "self-repairing" are correct. Do not forget to include different spellings of words in your search query. The search term "self healing" yields results in the field of medicine as well, so you need to combine it with "materials" to end up with relevant results.
- "Smart" and "high-tech" are more general terms. These can sometimes be useful, but only when your search yields too few results.
- "Automatic" is too general a search term: it will yield many irrelevant results.
- "Self healing coating", on the other hand, is too precise. Also, it already combines the aspect "self healing" with the next aspect "material".
It is better to search for each aspect separately before combining them.
- It is also possible to use search terms from other languages, such as "zelfherstellend", the Dutch translation for "self healing". However, please bear in mind that most databases and other search systems use English, so you will not find very many results

Q2 (D) Yes. They are not literal synonyms, but they are useful additional search terms.

Exercise 2

Q1 OR: These search terms are synonyms or related terms, and you combine synonyms with OR.

Q2 FB. "Self heal*" and "self repair*" are synonyms or related terms, and you combine synonyms with OR. *Film* is a different concept and you combine different concepts with AND. The brackets are used to indicate the order in which you want the operators to be processed.

So the correct search query is:

("self heal*" OR "self repair*") AND film

Q3. Which of the 4 search queries yields the most relevant results?

A) (film AND coating AND material) OR (screen OR touchscreen)

FB. Unfortunately, that is incorrect. In this search query the synonyms/related terms *film*, *coating and material* are combined incorrectly, with AND instead of OR. This will yield fewer results: only documents containing all three of these search terms.

Also, the concepts are combined with OR instead of AND. This will yield a higher number of results, but they will be less relevant: any document containing just one of the concepts qualifies.

- B) (film OR coating OR material) OR (screen OR touchscreen)
FB. Unfortunately, that is incorrect. These search query yields the most results, but not the most relevant results because the concepts are combined with OR instead of AND. Any document containing just one of the search terms qualifies.
- C) **(film OR coating OR material) AND (screen OR touchscreen)**
FB. Correct! In this search query the search terms are combined correctly: synonyms/related terms with OR, in order to increase the number of results, and concepts with AND, in order to exclude results which are not relevant.
- D) (film AND coating AND material) AND (screen OR touchscreen)
FB. Unfortunately, that is incorrect. In this search query the synonyms/related terms *film*, *coating* and *material* are combined incorrectly, with AND instead of OR. This will yield fewer results: only documents containing all three of these search terms.

Q4 The correct alternative search query is:
coating AND ("self repair*" OR "self heal*")

In this way documents are found which includes the terms *coating* and either "*self repair**" or "*self heal**".

Exercise 3

Q1 True, this is a journal article and they can best be found in Scopus.

Google Scholar is also an option, but the ordinary Google is not very suitable for finding scientific journal articles.

Q2 Reference (14) is a book reference and you cannot find books in Scopus.

Q3 A: You search for an article in Scopus, and then click on Full Text in the results list to access and read the article.

Q4 D: Look the publication up in WorldCat Discovery and click on the title to find its location.

You can find a book via WorldCat Discovery, which includes the catalogue of TU Delft Library. In the results list, you click on the title to see where the book is located. You can take it either from the shelf yourself or, if its location is in the closed stacks or the book is out on loan, you can make a reservation.