

SOURCE Research Skill Builders

Pre and Post Test Answer Key

Below you will find the answer key for questions addressing content in the Research Skill Builders section of SOURCE, covering a variety of information literacy topics. The questions themselves are provided in the related document on this site.

The answers and feedback below are organized by the same section and multimedia titles that you will find in SOURCE and in the same order as the questions are listed in the Pre/Post test questions document.

Taking on a Research Project

Inquiry and Open Mindedness

Question 1

The correct answer is B. The process of inquiry involves asking questions, remaining open to possibilities, and testing and learning through experience.

Question 2

The correct answer is C. When beginning an inquiry-based exploration, it's important to first determine what you need to know and keep an open mind. Both are important to ensure you are prepared to explore fresh possibilities and adjust your understanding of an issue.

Question 3

The correct answer is C. To gather a balanced collection of information on the topic, Julia should practice an inquiry-based mindset that includes keeping an open mind and asking questions to dig deeper into the issue.

Research Process

Question 1

The correct answer is D. Before taking a position, you should get familiar with your assignment requirements and conduct background research.

Question 2

The correct answer is A. As you gather evidence to support your position for an assignment, you may need to adjust your position based on your findings. Keep in mind that even after you've begun to research, there's plenty of room to revise and revisit the different stages of the process.

Question 3

The correct answer is B. To guide her research and complete the assignment successfully, Rachel should start by creating a research plan to identify the information she needs to understand the issue.

How to Narrow Your Topic

Question 1

The correct answer is B. Choosing an initial research focus means you can start gathering insights and adjust the scope of your investigation as you learn more. Keep in mind that research is an open-ended exploration, you may need to adjust the scope of your investigation as you gather more information.

Question 2

The correct answer is D. To adjust the scope of your exploration, you should narrow your focus and break your research question into smaller ones. This will help break your research up into smaller, more manageable chunks.

Question 3

The correct answer is D. "How did the 2005 hurricane, Katrina, impact small businesses in New Orleans?" is an example of a narrowed research question.

Background Research

Question 1

The correct answer is B. The purpose of background research is to give you a general understanding of a topic and to highlight important questions about the subject.

Question 2

The correct answer is B. If you are having trouble locating background information about your research topic, your research question may be too narrow. You should consider broadening your topic to locate more information to guide your exploration.

Question 3

The correct answer is A. Your research topic is too broad, consider narrowing your focus by breaking up your topic into smaller, more manageable questions such as "how has tourism impacted marine life such as coral reef ecosystems?"

Thesis Statements

Question 1

The correct answer is B. A solid research topic focuses on a gap in current information or re-examines conflicting information.

Question 2

The correct answer is C. A strong thesis is specific and debatable. In addition, your thesis must be supported by evidence and provide your reader with a preview of how you will build your case in your assignment.

Question 3

The correct answer is D. "Are student athletes who follow a ketogenic diet more likely to physically and mentally outperform their peers?" is an example of a thesis statement that is both specific and debatable.

Searching with Keywords

Question 1

The correct answer is D. If you are having trouble locating information using the terms from your research question, you should consider searching using synonyms and terms from your background research sources.

Question 2

The correct answer is C. Psychology, impact, children, home education are synonyms you would use as keywords to locate relevant information on this topic.

Question 3

Feedback: The correct answer is A. Trade, technology, and religion are subject terms that will help you locate background information to learn more about the significance of the Silk Road in the spread of new inventions and spiritual beliefs around the region.

Using and Understanding Resources

Types of Resources

Question 1

The correct answer is C. A feature article from this month's edition of a science magazine would provide the most relevant information to your research topic. The feature article is more current than the encyclopedia. You are likely to find more information in the article than in the short dictionary entry on "solar power". The article is also more closely aligned to your topic than the information from the mechanical engineering textbook.

Question 2

The correct answer is C. To determine the source's reliability, you should identify the author and evaluate their expertise on the subject.

Question 3

The correct answer is B. When you are first learning about a topic, you should conduct background research to get a general sense of the topic's key subjects and issues. Once you have a good understanding of the basics, you can move on to in-depth research to dive deeper into specific aspects of the topic.

Primary Sources

Question 1

The correct answer is D. Primary sources are raw materials or first-hand evidence associated with events from history.

Question 2

The correct answer is B. The results of a study examining passenger reactions to riding in a self-driving vehicle is an example of a primary source that would support your research. Remember, primary sources are raw materials or first-hand evidence that address historical and current topics.

Question 3

The correct answer is B. Data from a company specializing in jet biofuel is an example of a primary source that would support your research. Remember, primary sources are raw materials or first-hand evidence that address historical and current topics.

Secondary Sources

Question 1

The correct answer is B. A secondary source is a discussion of evidence, not evidence itself. To access raw materials and first-hand evidence, you'll want to refer to primary sources.

Question 2

The correct answer is C. A book on young adult psychology in the age of social media is an example of a secondary source you could use to support your research. Remember that secondary sources analyze or review the evidence presented in primary sources such as raw materials or study results.

Question 3

The correct answer is B. A chapter from the book *Ecology and Conservation of the Bengal Tiger* is an example of a secondary source you could use to support your research. Remember that secondary sources analyze or review the evidence presented in primary sources such as raw materials or study results.

Tertiary Sources

Question 1

The correct answer is A. The purpose of tertiary sources is to compile and summarize primary and secondary sources.

Question 2

The correct answer is D. A textbook about the impact of human activity on coral reefs is an example of a tertiary source that would help you gather background information about the topic.

Question 3

The correct answer is A. An entry for "The Boston Tea Party" in a history encyclopedia is an example of a tertiary source that would help you gather background information about the Boston Tea Party of 1773.

Finding Government Information

Question 1

The correct answer is B. Government information is produced by federal, state, and local agencies. These agencies cover a wide range of topics from employment to immigration to environmental issues.

Question 2

The correct answer is C. Government information is free to the public and is available online on sites in the .gov domain.

Question 3

The correct answer is B. In this scenario, information published by a government department would give you a big picture view of the initiative, while guidelines from your local government would provide guidelines to apply to your daily life.

Choosing a Database

Question 1

The correct answer is C. Reference databases typically are general in nature and cover a wide array of subjects.

Question 2

The correct answer is D. To locate peer-reviewed articles on these topics, you should refer to a scholarly database which covers a wide range of disciplines.

Question 3

The correct answer is B. To get a better understanding of the subtopics and terminology associated with this subject, you should refer to a general database which offers background information on many topics.

Understanding Google Search Results

Question 1

The correct answer is A. The algorithm assumes that if a website is popular, it will be more relevant to you. Keep in mind that popular doesn't necessarily mean the website will be authoritative or correct. Be prepared to look on page two, three, or four of the search results to find the information you need.

Question 2

The correct answer is B. A website's .gov ending is an indicator that a Google search result is from a government health agency.

Question 3

The correct answer is C. Natural results are not paid for by anyone and have been determined by the algorithm to be relevant to your search.

Evaluating Sources for Objectivity

Question 1

The correct answer is A. The purpose of a persuasive source is to convince the audience that a certain point of view is correct.

Question 2

The correct answer is B. In an objective source, the facts are presented fairly, regardless of the writer's personal opinions.

Question 3

The correct answer is B. The results of a study published by a humanitarian aid organization is most likely to contain objective information on initiatives to relieve global poverty.

Evaluating and Using Quantitative Information

Question 1

The correct answer is C. Quantitative information describes information that can be measured numerically.

Question 2

The correct answer is A. Qualitative information describes information that can be measured with words.

Question 3

The correct answer is C. Data from a study on the increasing need for low-income housing in your area is an example of quantitative information related to this topic.

Evaluating Sources

Question 1

The correct answer is A. To be an authority on a subject, an author must be accepted as an expert by professionals in his or her field.

Question 2

The correct answer is B. When a source is objective, it means the creator uses evidence rather than personal opinion to reach logical conclusions.

Question 3

The correct answer is A. To evaluate the relevance of the source, Shira needs to examine the currency of the information in the article. This is important because the cost of attending college changes year to year as the cost of tuition, housing, and materials like textbooks evolve.

Visual Literacy

Question 1

The correct answer is B. Visual literacy is the ability to effectively find, interpret, evaluate, use, and create images and visual media.

Question 2

The correct answer is A. To evaluate these images, you should look for evidence of alteration such as cropping or blurring.

Question 3

The correct answer is C. Kirsten should be sure to cite her source when using the image in her assignment.

Finding and Using Images

Question 1

The correct answer is B. Before incorporating an image into your assignment, you should be sure to check for any restrictions such as a copyright statement that may limit or prevent you from using the image.

Question 2

The correct answer is B. Even if a license allows you to use an image, you must give credit to the creator by using their name and the image creation date and title, plus an access URL.

Question 3

The correct answer is A. Eli and Omar should keep in mind that the image's copyright may prohibit its use for commercial gain. They should carefully read the image's terms of use to make sure they do not violate the creator's copyright on the image.

Life in the Information Age

Question 1

The correct answer is C. Information literacy is the ability to find and use the right information in different situations.

Question 2

The correct answer is B. Using technology to communicate and seek support from your classmates is an example of responsibly applying information literacy to your campaign.

Digital Citizenship Part 1

Question 1

The correct answer is C. Being a digital citizen means actively participating in and following the rules and responsibilities of an online community.

Question 2

The correct answer is B. Before replying to the angry user, you should keep in mind that a digital citizen is able to communicate effectively, courteously, and professionally in digital communities. You can then use these qualities to shape an appropriate response.

Question 3

The correct answer is B. Sharing an encouraging post on social media and giving credit to the author is an example of Betsy being a responsible digital citizen.

Digital Citizenship Part 2

Question 1

The correct answer is A. Regardless of whether or not you delete them, posts can be kept online and possibly resurface.

Question 2

The correct answer is A. Part of being a safe and responsible digital citizen is making sure your personal online information is secure. For example, a safe and responsible digital citizen will avoid using the same password for multiple sites, and have a system in place to securely manage their different passwords.

Question 3

The correct answer is C. Even though she is upset, Gabriela should practice digital citizenship by writing a response that is professional and fact-based.

Academic Integrity

Question 1

The correct answer is D. As a student, you can practice academic integrity by presenting your own original ideas, and giving credit to the sources that inspired you.

Question 2

The correct answer is B. Intellectual property is an idea or invention that comes from someone's mind.

Question 3

The correct answer is D. Jun should find a different quote that he is able to cite fully. Even if he is able to paraphrase the quote in his own words, he still needs to give credit to the original author.

What is Plagiarism

Question 1

The correct answer is B. Plagiarism is the act of taking another person's work and using it as your own.

Question 2

The correct answer is D. The most responsible method to integrate the description into your paper is to paraphrase the description and give credit to the original author.

Question 3

The correct answer is D. To incorporate the quote responsibly, Derek should place the historian's words in quotations and reference the original source.

Citation and Plagiarism

Question 1

The correct answer is C. Fair use is an exception to copyright law that allows the public to make limited use of a work currently protected by copyright without the owner's consent.

Question 2

The correct answer is D. Phrases like “according to” and “defined by” that precede summary text are examples of signal phrases used to refer to the original source of the summarized information.

Question 3

The correct answer is A. Since the exercise will be used for educational purposes, it could be argued that Ms. Nguyen’s actions fall under fair use. In addition, the exercise makes up only a small part of a work of nonfiction which further supports Ms. Nguyen’s actions as fair use.

Copyright

Question 1

The correct answer is B. Copyright grants a creator control over their creations.

Question 2

The correct answer is D. The purpose of a Creative Commons license is to allow users to share, reuse, and advance original works.

Question 3

The correct answer is C. Ian can search Google Images for images with “free to use or share” usage rights to locate images that are free to use without copyright restrictions.

MLA 8th Edition Citation Basics

Question 1

The correct answer is C. The name of the author or group responsible for creating the source comes first in an MLA reference citation.

Question 2

The correct answer is A. Since online materials can be updated or moved, MLA style recommends including an access date for online sources so that your readers can determine which version of the content you used.

Question 3

The correct answer is B. The correct reference citation for this book is: Bone, Eugenia. *Microbia: A Journey Into the Unseen World Around You*. Rodale, 2018.

Harvard Referencing System

Question 1

The correct answer is A. In the Harvard Referencing System, an in-text citation refers to a source in the body of a piece of writing. Typically, an in-text citation includes the source's author and publication date.

Question 2

The correct answer is D. According to the Harvard Referencing System, you should use the name of the organization or website, along with the date if a source doesn't have an author listed.

Question 3

The correct answer is A. The correct Harvard Referencing System reference citation for this book is: Plath, S. 2020. *The Bell Jar*. New York, Barnes & Noble.

Study and Writing Skills

Time Management Tips

Question 1

The correct answer is A. Scheduling 30-45 minute blocks of study time will help prevent you from feeling overwhelmed and getting distracted while doing schoolwork.

Question 2

The correct answer is D. Using separate folders for the materials of each of her classes will help Audrey to get her notes and assignment guidelines organized.

Question 3

The correct answer is A. Using the syllabus for each class will help Levi keep track of important dates, schedule study sessions, and better manage his time next semester.

Reading Tips

Question 1

The correct answer is C. Try reading in small chunks to give your brain a chance to absorb the information. This might mean reading one short section at a time or setting a timer to remind yourself to take a break and reflect on what you've read.

Question 2

The correct answer is B. To improve your reading comprehension, it's better to take notes instead of highlighting important concepts.

Question 3

The correct answer is D. To improve his reading comprehension, Sidney should find a quiet place to absorb the information.

Introduction to Note Taking

Question 1

The correct answer is B. When taking notes on a class lecture, you should only take notes on the important points. Focusing on the main ideas will help you draw connections between important facts and details.

Question 2

The correct answer is D. While taking lecture notes, you should paraphrase, or use your own words, to reinforce your memory.

Question 3

The correct answer is B. Margaret would benefit from only taking notes on the important concepts and details relevant to the assignment.

10 Most Common Writing Errors

Question 1

The correct answer is D. To help lead your reader through your argument, you should have used transitions between sentences.

Question 2

The correct answer is D. This example illustrates the common writing error of incorrect verb tense. Remember to use the past tense when incorporating authors' published findings or quotations into your writing.

Question 3

The correct answer is D. This is an example of incorrect subject-verb agreement. The corrected statement should read "The recent study on school children and malnutrition states that access to healthy food is limited in underfunded school districts."

Preparing for a Pro/Con Debate

Question 1

The correct answer is D. In a pro/con debate, each side's argument is followed by a rebuttal in which each team challenges the opposition's argument.

Question 2

The correct answer is C. Researching their possible arguments is a strategy you can use to better argue against your opponent.

Question 3

The correct answer is A. This is not a successful debate strategy because you are critiquing your opponent personally rather than their argument.

Teamwork and Collaboration

Question 1

The correct answer is B. Setting aside 5-10 minutes to brainstorm in small groups will give everyone the chance to participate in the brainstorming process.

Question 2

The correct answer is D. Expressions, gestures, and posture are examples of non-verbal cues that can impact how team members interpret each other's words and actions.

Question 3

The correct answer is B. Before voicing his frustrations, Diego should consider alternate interpretations that may explain his classmates' behaviors.

Presenting Information, Part 1

Question 1

The correct answer is C. To help your audience form their own opinions, be sure to provide a big picture view of the issue.

Question 2

The correct answer is D. To ensure your presentation is relevant to your audience, be sure to consider the type and amount of information your audience actually needs to know.

Question 3

The correct answer is C. You should evaluate the information for accuracy and exclude any unverifiable facts. Remember it's your responsibility to make sure the sources and facts included in your presentation are trustworthy.

Presenting Information, Part 2

Question 1

The correct answer is C. The progression of an effective presentation begins with previewing the main topics for your audience. Next, you should present what you want them to know. Finally, recap or review what you told your audience.

Question 2

The correct answer is B. If you decide to use visuals to support your presentation, you must make sure that you have permission to use any media you didn't create yourself.

Question 3

The correct answer is D. Ben should test his presentation and effects and equipment prior to presenting in front of the class. This is especially important if he hasn't practiced his presentation in front of an audience or is unfamiliar with the classroom presentation equipment.

Study Skills

Question 1

The correct answer is C. To help manage your time, you should mark the due date on your calendar as soon as you receive a class assignment.

Question 2

The correct answer is D. As the semester progresses, Jorge should keep in mind that he may need to adjust his study strategy depending on the class or task.

Question 3

The correct answer is C. Monica should use her class syllabi to schedule study time and mark important deadlines. This will help her manage her work and study time for the semester.