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**Reference and Information Services
Holschuh Simmons**

Practice questions #1

1. I am doing some research for my sociology of education course, and I need to know the percentage of Caucasian, African-American, Latino, and Asian people in the United States over the age of 25 who have at least a bachelor's degree. I need relatively recent data, probably from sometime in the last ten years. I've been poking around on Google for more than an hour, and I can't find anything that just gives me the numbers. Can you help me? (You need to list the percentages for each group in addition to explaining your process and providing a source.)

Answer:

- (a) Caucasian (White): 29.9%
African-American (Black): 19.3%
Latino (Hispanic): 13.2%
Asian: 52.3%

This information can be found on The U.S. Census Bureau's Table 225, "Educational Attainment by Race and Hispanic Origin: 1970 to 2009," at <http://www.census.gov/compendia/statab/2011/tables/11s0225.pdf>. This table is linked to *The 2011 Statistical Abstract* online. According to the key at the top of the table, the numbers are given in percent and apply to persons 25 years old and over as of March 2009. The table actually provides percentages for the years 2000, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, and 2009 (as well as older data), so it is possible to analyze trends and compare percentages over the past decade or so. For additional education-related information, visit the "Education" page of the *Statistical Abstract* (<http://www.census.gov/compendia/statab/cats/education.html>). Here you will find a variety of tables representing statistical data about education in both PDF and XLS formats.

- (b) The *Statistical Abstract* online was the first source I consulted, but it did take me a few minutes to figure out which table would have the data I was looking for. When I hovered my pointer over the "Education" link in the vertical navigation bar on the left side of the page, I first selected "Higher Education: Degrees." Scanning the list of tables on this page, I selected Table 296, "Degrees Earned by Level and Race/Ethnicity." This table, however, did not indicate whether it applied only to persons age 25 and above, so I decided to continue looking to see if I could find one which did. I decided to check out the "Educational Attainment" section. I first looked at Table 227, "Educational Attainment by Selected Characteristics: 2009." However, this table did not include information specifically pertaining to Asians, so I knew I still had not discovered the right table. I finally found the necessary information in Table 225, "Educational Attainment by Race and Hispanic Origin." Since the table did not use the same terminology used in the question, I did a Google search to investigate the difference between Hispanic and Latino. I concluded, based on several results that came up (including one which mentioned that the U.S. Census Bureau does not use the term Latino, only Hispanic), that the two terms are often used interchangeably, so I felt comfortable selecting this source as authoritative. I realized that it was very important to note *all* of the information provided in the question, as the question was very specific about the nature of the information sought.
- (c) **Question:** I have read several times in popular media that women are starting to surpass men in the number of academic degrees earned. I was wondering if there is

any hard data to back this up. Is there a place where I can find information on the number of academic degrees awarded to men and women over a period of time, say the last 50 years or so?

Answer: Yes, the U.S. Census Bureau's Table 295, "Degrees Earned by Level and Sex: 1960 to 2008"

(<http://www.census.gov/compendia/statab/2011/tables/11s0296.pdf>) provides information about the number of degrees earned by men and women in a number of years between 1960 and 2008. The table provides information about specific degrees (such as Bachelor's or Master's) as well as totals for all degrees.

(d) I spent almost an hour on this question! I noted the time when I first selected my source and visited the *Statistical Abstract* Web site, and at the time I am writing this, 57 minutes have passed.

2. I am interested in examining the atmospheric concentration of carbon dioxide historically. I'm wondering if there is data from the early 20th century that I can compare to current data. I'm hoping I might be able to compare a year like 1900 to a year like 2000. It wouldn't have to be exactly these years, but I would like the data to be from around those two years. Can you help me? (In your answer you need to include the actual concentration of CO₂ for a year in the early 1900's and one for around 2000.)

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3. I am doing some research on trends in the agriculture industry. How many farms were in the state of Iowa in 2001, 2003, and 2006? I don't necessarily need those exact years, but I would like data from a range of years in the 2000's so that I can see the trend. Where should I look? (In your answer you need to include the actual numbers for a span of years to show a trend.)

Answer:

(a) We should be able to find this information in *The World Almanac and Book of Facts*, which is published annually; we may need to look at a couple of copies published in different years to get data for the range of years that you are looking for. We can start by looking at the index of the book. Under the entry for "Agriculture," there is an entry for "Acreage, number of farms." We can turn to the page number indicated there to get the numbers. Let's look at the 2006 and 2011 editions of the *Almanac*. The number of farms in Iowa, according to *The World Almanac and Book of Facts 2006*, was 94,000 in 2000 and 89,700 in 2004. According to the 2011 edition, the number of farms in Iowa in 2009 was 92,600.

(b) After reading over the annotations on our class wiki, I thought *The World Almanac and Book of Facts* would have the information needed to answer this question. However, I initially pulled just the 2011 edition off the shelf, and I quickly found that it did not have the range of dates needed to answer the question. I went back to the shelf and pulled the 2006 edition in order to get the remaining information needed to answer the question. In addition, since I had never used this resource before, I did not know exactly how to find the information I was looking for. I first looked up "Iowa" in the index and turned to the entry for that state, but it did not have information about the number of farms in Iowa. I then looked up "Farms" and was directed to "See Agriculture." Finally, under the entry for "Agriculture," I found the reference to the information I needed.

(c) **Question:** I'm researching oil spills for a paper for my environmental science class. I know there have been quite a few oil spills over the past few decades, and I was

wondering if there is someplace I can find a list of the major oil spills, their dates and causes, and estimates of the amount of oil spilled.

Answer: I think we could find this information in *The World Almanac and Book of Facts*. I've got the latest edition, for 2011, right here. If you open to the table of contents and look under "Science & Technology," there is a "Disasters" section starting on page 316. If we turn to that section and skim, a few pages in there is a section for "Record Oil Spills" and "Other Notable Oil Spills" with just the information you asked for.

(d) I spent 24 minutes on this question from the time I started looking at the first index to the time I am writing this.

4. I have come to embrace my identity as an ugly person, and I am wondering if there is an association for unattractive people like me. If so, who is responsible for creating the group? What is their purpose? (In your answer you need to include the association's name, the founder, contact info, and a brief explanation of its purpose.)

Answer:

(a) From the *Associations Unlimited* database available through King Library, we can conclude that yes, there is an association for unattractive people.

Association's name: Uglies Unlimited (UU)

Founder: Danny McCoy

Contact info:

Address: 1906 Juniper Ln., Lufkin, TX 75904 USA

Phone: (936) 634-1429

Fax: (936) 675-5169

Email: teamwardbound@yahoo.com

URL: <http://www.ugliesunlimited.com>

Purposes: to "serve as the guardian of ugly human beings; encourage society and employers to accept people for what they are instead of what they look like; assists members in finding a new self-image. Solicits more exposure for uglies in mass media advertising (Uglies can sell products too!). Pickets, boycotts, and files complaints with Equal Employment Opportunity Commission. Conducts public awareness program. Holds Ugly Stick Competition (prizes are awarded by a select committee of washed-out judges of past beauty pageants). Compiles statistics."

(b) Because this question asked specifically about an association, I knew right away that *Associations Unlimited* would be a good source to consult. I found it in the list of Databases A-Z on the King Library Web site. From the main search page, after looking over the various search options, I decided to try "Subject/Any Word Search." From that page, in the "Free Text" field, I typed in the word "ugly" and then clicked "Search." This brought up a list of two associations, Tall Grass Writers Guild, which did not sound like what I was looking for, and Uglies Unlimited, which sounded promising. I clicked on "Uglies Unlimited" and after reading through the description of the organization, determined that it met the criteria outlined in the question.

(c) **Question:** After years of working for the man, I have decided that I am finally going to go after my dream of becoming a published author. Not only that, but I want to make lots of money selling my books. I know that I want to write fiction of some sort, and I'm thinking maybe mystery or romance novels. I'd love to connect with other writers in my area around Bellevue, WA. Are there any associations for writers in this area?

Answer: I know just where to find the answer to your question! Let's look at the *Associations Unlimited* database. Since you've got a couple of criteria, let's do a Custom Search; that way, we can limit our results to just associations for writers in the Bellevue area. Based on that search, it looks like there are actually two

associations for writers in your area: Eastside Romance Writers of America and Greater Seattle Romance Writers of America. Since you are considering writing romance novels, perhaps one of these groups will be just what you are looking for!

- (d) I spent 24 minutes on this question from the time I accessed the *Associations Unlimited* database until I am writing this.
5. I am doing research on Barack Obama's early life in politics, and I'd like to find the first article the *New York Times* ran about Barack Obama. What was the title of the article, and when was it written? (You need to include the actual headline and date of publication.)

Answer:

- (a) According to the *ProQuest Historical Newspapers: New York Times* database, which covers content appearing in the *Times* as far back as 1851, the first article the *New York Times* ran about Barack Obama appeared on February 6, 1990 under the headline "First Black Elected to Head Harvard's Law Review."
- (b) For some reason, when I first looked at this question, it didn't occur to me that I should consult the *ProQuest Historical Newspapers: New York Times* database. Because the question dealt with an American President, I immediately thought of the two sources on our class wiki that dealt with the American Presidency. Since I was pretty familiar with *The American Presidency Project Online* Web site, having done the secondary annotation for that source, I knew it was not the appropriate source to use to answer this question. So I assumed that I needed to consult the *Encyclopedia of the American Presidency*. Unfortunately, the library I visited did not have a copy of that resource. There was only one copy in the entire library system, and it was a reference book at a branch all the way on the other side of the county. Needless to say, I wished to avoid having to make the trip to that other branch! I set the question aside for a couple of days and came back to it. When I came back to it, I decided to look over the class wiki again to see if there was another source that might be consulted, and then it dawned on me that the *ProQuest Historical Newspapers: New York Times* database would have the information needed to answer it! Once I accessed the database through King Library's Databases A-Z Web page, I did an Advanced Search for "barack obama" and limited my results to articles published before the year 2000. That generated six results, and it was easy to determine the oldest one by looking at the dates of publication.
- (c) **Question:** One of my favorite poets is Allen Ginsberg, and I've been researching his life to better understand his poetry. I know he died in 1997, and I'd like to read some of the media coverage that appeared when he died. Did *The New York Times* run an article about his death? Can I read the article?
- Answer:** A great place to find any coverage of Ginsberg's death in *The New York Times* would be in a database our library subscribes to which is called *ProQuest Historical Newspapers: New York Times*. Since we know Ginsberg died in 1997, on the Advanced Search page, we can limit our results to just those published between January 1st and December 31st, 1997. Let's then type in the keywords "allen ginsberg" and see what comes up. Here we go: the first result was published on April 6, 1997 under the headline "Allen Ginsberg, Master Poet of Beat Generation, Dies at 70." It looks like there were other articles that appeared after his death, so if you're interested in additional coverage, you might want to browse through those as well.
- (d) I spent 33 minutes on this question from the time I accessed the database until I am writing this.
6. I am going to a wedding with my boyfriend and I'll be meeting his family for the first time. His family is very prim and proper. I saw on the menu for the dinner that they

will be serving artichokes. I am not sure I've even seen an artichoke before, and I surely don't know how to eat one. How should I eat it without embarrassing myself? I really like him and I don't want him to break up with me. Maybe I'll just break up with him to save myself the embarrassment. (You need to include a BRIEF explanation of how to eat an artichoke politely.)

Answer:

- (a) According to the chapter on "Mealtime Manners" in the 16th edition of *Emily Post's Etiquette* (1997), "whole artichokes are always eaten with the fingers" (p. 240). Leaves should be pulled off one at a time, starting at the outside base of the artichoke. The base of the leaves can be dipped into melted butter (if provided) and then placed between the teeth and pulled forward. The inedible portions should be placed neatly on the side of your plate. Once you have consumed all of the artichoke's leaves and you reach the center of the artichoke, you should use your knife to scrape away the "thistlelike part" (p. 240), also known as the "choke," and place it with the leaves on the side of your plate. The remaining part, the artichoke heart, should be cut with a knife and fork into bite-sized pieces, which can then be dipped into melted butter and eaten.
- (b) Since *Emily Post's Etiquette* was the only source on our class wiki that dealt with etiquette, I knew right away that this would be the source to consult for this particular question. The library I visited did not have a reference copy of the book, but they did have a few copies of various editions of the book in their circulating collection, so I went to the shelf and pulled the 16th edition, published in 1997. I opened to the Table of Contents in the front of the book and scanned over the list of chapters. When I came to Part III, "Your Personal Life," I paused and looked more carefully at the chapters listed. Chapter 14, "Mealtime Manners," appeared at the end of the list of chapters for this section, so I turned to the page indicated for that chapter, page 231. I flipped through the first few pages, looking for content related to etiquette around eating. Just a few pages in, on page 240, I found the section entitled "The Etiquette of Eating," and the third entry in the section dealt with artichokes and described how to properly eat one.
- (c) **Question:** My sister and her husband will be celebrating their fifth wedding anniversary next month with a big party and I need to start thinking about what to give them as a gift. What is the traditional gift for couples celebrating their fifth wedding anniversary?
Answer: I'll bet we can find the answer to your question in *Emily Post's Etiquette*. Let's take a look at Part VIII on "Gifts, Giving & Thank-Yous." According to Chapter 34 on "Gifts for Special Occasions," here on page 622 we can see that the traditional gift for a fifth wedding anniversary is wood.
- (d) I spent 28 minutes on this question from the time I opened up to the Table of Contents until I am writing this.
7. I'd like to find out which schools in California offer a Ph.D. in Japanese. Can you help me? (You need to include the names of the schools.)

Answer:

- (a) According to the 2010 edition of *Peterson's Graduate Programs in the Humanities, Arts & Social Sciences*, the schools in California which offer a Ph.D. in Japanese are Stanford University, the University of California, Berkeley, and the University of California, Irvine. Peterson's publishes a multi-volume guide to graduate programs, with each volume covering different academic areas. Since foreign languages fall into the realm of Humanities, Arts & Social Sciences, we can look specifically in the volume covering that area. In the Table of Contents, under Academic and

Professional Programs in the Humanities, Section 9 covers Language and Literature. Scanning down this list, we see that Japanese language programs start on page 412, and by reading through the different entries, we can quickly identify which programs are located in California and which of those offer the Ph.D.

- (b) I knew from our class wiki that the answer to this question would most likely be found in a *Peterson's Guide to Graduate & Professional Programs*. At the library I visited, these were shelved in the circulating collection; luckily, when I went to the shelf, it appeared that the whole set was checked in. After looking over the spines of the different volumes, I pulled the one on graduate programs in the humanities, arts and social sciences because I knew that foreign languages would fall into this subject area. I then looked for "Japanese" in the Table of Contents, flipped to the page listed for those programs, and read through the various entries to find the programs located in California which offer a Ph.D. in Japanese.
- (c) **Question:** Does the University of Washington offer graduate degrees in Near and Middle Eastern Studies?
Answer: I can help you find out. We have a great guide to graduate programs called *Peterson's Guide to Graduate & Professional Programs*. The programs in Near and Middle Eastern studies would be found in the volume that focuses on programs in the humanities, arts and social sciences. If we look at the Table of Contents, we see the entry for programs in Near and Middle Eastern Studies listed under "Academic and Professional Programs in the Social Sciences," and it begins on page 608. If we flip to that section, we see that the University of Washington offers three graduate degrees in this area: MA, MAIS, and Ph.D.
- (d) I spent 15 minutes on this question from looking up "Japanese" in the table of contents to the time I am writing this.
8. I am on four different prescriptions, and I put all of my pills in my pill box so that I know which ones I am supposed to take each day and at each meal. This morning I was carrying the pill box and I tripped on my cat, so all the pills scattered all over the kitchen floor. I picked them all up before my cat ate them, but now I can't remember which pills are which ones. I can't afford to throw them all away, and so I am wondering if there is a source that shows what each pill looks like. Can you help me? (You need to list the title of a source that shows images of a wide range of prescription medicines as well as how to use the source.)

Answer:

- (a) *Physician's Desk Reference* should provide you with the information you need. You can start by looking up the names of each of your medications in the Brand and Generic Name Index at the front of the book; in the 2011 edition, this section begins on page 101 and is printed on light pink paper. Each drug will be listed with its name followed by its manufacturer in parentheses. Once you know the manufacturer of each of your medications, you can turn to Section 4, the Product Identification Guide. Medications are listed in this section alphabetically by manufacturer. Once you have found the manufacturer of a particular drug in the alphabetical listing, there will be color images of the packaging and/or the drugs they manufacture, which should allow you to match the images with the pills in order to identify them.
- (b) Based on the annotations in our class wiki, I felt fairly confident that *Physician's Desk Reference* would be the appropriate source to consult for this question. However, the first library I visited did not have a copy of the book in stock! So I had to set the question aside for a couple of days until I could visit another branch of the library. When I arrived at the branch, I went to the reference shelf and found the book by the call number I had previously looked up in the OPAC. I opened up to the front of the book and found the Brand and Generic Name Index as well as the Product

Identification Guide. From looking at the Product Identification Guide, which was what I knew would be necessary to answer the question because of the need to visually identify the various pills, I determined that it would be necessary to first determine the manufacturers of the various drugs. This information was available in the Brand and Generic Name Index. By using these two sections of the book, I was able to determine the appropriate strategy to use for answering this question.

- (c) **Question:** My doctor prescribed me a new form of birth control called Ortho Evra. I've been using it for less than a month, and I forgot to change my patch at the beginning of week 3! I was supposed to change it on Sunday, and today is Wednesday. Of course I threw away all the instructions that came with the prescription. Is there anywhere I can find out what to do if I forgot to change my patch for a few days?

Answer: We should be able to find that information in *Physician's Desk Reference*. We can look up the name of your prescription, Ortho Evra, in the Brand and Generic Name Index at the front of the book. According to this index, information about the manufacturer begins on page 2678 of this edition, the 2011 edition. If we flip to that page, we have to go through an alphabetical listing of all the drugs produced by that particular manufacturer, Ortho-McNeil-Janssen Pharmaceuticals, Inc. The information about Ortho Evra begins on page 2725. We will need to scan through the information listed to find out the answer to your question. Here on page 2736 is a section called "How to use Ortho Evra." It says for week two or week three of your cycle, "If you forget to change your patch for **more than two days, YOU COULD BECOME PREGNANT—start a new four week cycle as soon as you remember by putting on a new patch.** You now have a different 'Patch Change Day' and a new Day 1. You must use back-up contraception for the first week of your new cycle" (emphasis in original). If you'd like, you can look over this section on Ortho Evra to learn more. You may also want to contact your doctor.

- (d) I spent 30 minutes on this question from the time I opened up *Physician's Desk Reference* until I am writing this.

9. I need to do a brief presentation about Jane Addams. I have looked in the catalog, and I have found several books about her, but since the presentation is short, I am wondering if you might have a shorter biography that includes the important points of her life. I need to talk about the Hull House and maybe something about her efforts for peace and her Nobel Prize. Do you have a source that gives a succinct biography? My grouchy professor said that we are not supposed to use Wikipedia. Drat! (You don't need to include info about Jane Addams, but you do need to name one or more sources that you could recommend to this person that has the info he or she is seeking.)

Answer:

- (a) The *American National Biography Online* database, available through the King Library, should have the information you are looking for. Since you are looking for information about a specific individual, you can just type her name (last, first) into the "Search by Name" field on the database's search page and then click "Search." As you can see, a query for "Addams, Jane" retrieves one result, and when you click on it, you get a brief biography with sections about Hull-House, her international peace efforts, and her 1931 Nobel Peace Prize. The bibliography at the end of the entry provides references to other materials that may or may not be useful for your purposes, and there is even a link to the text of the presentation speech for her Nobel Peace Prize.
- (b) Based on our class wiki, I knew that the *American National Biography Online* database would probably have the type of information needed for this question, so it

was the first source I consulted. I first visited the King Library Web site, then clicked on the link to "Articles & Databases," and then selected "Databases A-Z," since I already knew the name of the database I wanted to use. Once I found this database in the list, I clicked on it and was taken to the Advanced Search page. I had never used this database before, so I spent a few moments considering how to conduct my query. I noticed that there was a "Search by Name" field with a little question mark button next to it, so I clicked on the question mark. The popup window instructed me to search in the format Last Name, First Name, so I entered "Addams, Jane" into the search box and easily retrieved her biography.

- (c) **Question:** I am taking a Native American History course, and I have to write a research paper highlighting the achievements of a prominent Native American. Since I love sports, I am interested in writing about a Native American athlete, but I don't know of any off the top of my head. I was wondering if there is a way to find information about possible subjects of my paper so I can choose a topic. Then I will also need to find sources that I can use to research my topic.

Answer: A good starting place would be the *American National Biography Online* database. On the Advanced Search page, you can choose to search Special Collections, including "American Indian Heritage." Below that, you can limit your search by "Occupations and Realms of Renown." In this dropdown menu, you can select "Sports and Games." If you then click the Search button, as you can see, you will retrieve the biographies of three notable Native American athletes: Chief Bender, Louis M. Sockalexis, and Jim Thorpe. I would suggest reading over these three biographies to see if one of these individuals may be a good choice of topic for your paper. If so, at the bottom of each biography, you will find a Bibliography with sources you can consult for additional information for your paper, and I can help you locate those resources. If not, I would be happy to help you find some additional resources we can consult.

- (d) This question took me 26 minutes to complete, starting when I accessed the *American National Biography Online* database through King Library, and ending as I am writing this.

10. I stumbled upon this fabulous novel called *Cat in Gloves* by someone named Denis Delaney. I haven't been able to find anything else that he has written, and I am dying to learn more about this author. Can you find some information about him? I'd like to see a list of the things he has written and find out about his personal life. (You don't need to recap his life, but you should find a source that provides all of the info that the patron needs.)

Answer:

- (a) I can certainly help you find more information about this author. A great starting-place is a database available through our library called *Literature Resource Center*. Because authors sometimes use pseudonyms, let's try searching by the title of the novel you read, *Cat in Gloves*. We'll choose "Name of Work" in the dropdown menu and then type "Cat in Gloves" in the search field and click the Search button. This brings up one result: "Peter M. Green." Let's click on it to see if it has what we're looking for. Based on this information, it looks like "Denis Delaney" is a pseudonym used by an author named Peter M. Green. If you look over this entry, you'll see that there is quite a bit of information here about him, including his personal life and career, his writings, awards, his work as a translator and editor, and a list of further readings.
- (b) Because of the annotation in our class wiki, I figured *Literature Resource Center* would have the information needed to answer this question. In the "Databases A-Z" list on the King Library Web site, I found it in the list and clicked on it to go to the

search page. I first tried an Author search for "Delaney, Denis," but nothing was retrieved. I then tried a "Name Of Work" search for "Cat in Gloves." This brought up the "Peter M. Green" result. I thought that was odd, but I clicked on the name, and then I discovered that Denis Delaney was the pseudonym under which he published *Cat in Gloves*.

- (c) **Question:** I'm a senior in high school, and for my AP English class we just read a book entitled *Zen and the Art of Motorcycle Maintenance*, by Robert M. Pirsig. What a crazy book! I'm not sure I really understood most of what that Phaedrus was saying, but it sure got me thinking. I tried Googling the author but I haven't really been able to find out much about him. Do you have any information about him or anything else he may have written so that I can understand his work better?

Answer: Sure! Let's try looking up *Zen and the Art of Motorcycle Maintenance* in the *Literature Resource Center* database. We can do a "Name of Work" search and then just enter that title into the search box and click on "Search." It looks like that retrieved several results—let's try clicking on the "Biographies" tab to see if there's a biography of the author. Ahh, there it is—he's second on the list. When we click on his name, it brings us to this page that talks about his personal information, career, awards, and works, as well as some further readings. It looks like he published a second book entitled *Lila: An Inquiry into Morals* in 1991. Would you be interested in checking the library OPAC to see if we've got that on the shelf? I can also help you look for some of these suggested readings.

- (d) I spent 35 minutes on this question from the time I located the database on the King Library Web site until I am writing this. The most time-consuming part of the question was part c, where I had to come up with my own question that could be answered using this resource. It took me several tries to formulate a good question. Either I got no results, got irrelevant results, or got too many results. This was my first time using this database and I'll probably need to spend more time with it to get a good sense of the ways in which it is useful and where I might be better served using an alternative resource.

11. I am thinking of writing a children's book about baseball, and I believe that there was a teenage girl who played for a minor league team in the early 1930's who struck out Babe Ruth and Lou Gehrig of the New York Yankees. I'd like to find the original newspaper articles about this young woman. Can you help me find out her name and some specifics of this situation? I'd really like the actual newspaper articles and dates of publication about this particular game. (You need to list her name, a headline, and a date of publication.)

Answer:

- (a) Her name was Jackie Mitchell, and on April 3, 1931 *The New York Times* published an article with the headline "Girl Pitcher Fans Ruth and Gehrig," which can be found in the *ProQuest Historical Newspapers: New York Times* database available through King Library. This article describes how she struck out both Babe Ruth and Lou Gehrig in the first inning!
- (b) Since the question was about the New York Yankees and an event that occurred in the early 1930s and asked for newspaper articles, I had a feeling I might find the information in the *ProQuest Historical Newspapers: New York Times* database. In order to retrieve the information, from the default Basic Search screen, I navigated to the Advanced Search page. I chose to limit my results to a specific date range, between 1930 and 1936. I then did an "All Fields + text" search for the keywords "babe ruth struck out girl." This retrieved 12 results, with the desired article appearing first in the list.

(c) **Question:** I'm looking for information that appeared in *The New York Times* within 24 hours of the 9/11 terrorist attacks. I am interested in learning what that newspaper's immediate response was to the attacks. Do you have a copy of *The New York Times* from September 12, 2001? Or is it available somewhere online?

Answer: You are in luck, because although we no longer have the newspaper itself, our library does subscribe to this wonderful database called *ProQuest Historical Newspapers: New York Times*, which covers the years 1851-2007. On the Advanced Search Page, you can limit the date range you search to a specific date or a range of dates; for example, you could search specifically for September 12, 2001 or for the range September 11-12, 2001. You can also include keywords in the search box, so in this case, you might want to type in "terrorist" and see what comes up with that.

(d) This question took me 24 minutes from the time I located the database on the King Library Web site until I am writing this.

12. I heard Terry Gross interview the historian Garry Wills on NPR's Fresh Air recently. They talked about his book *Bomb Power: The Modern Presidency and the National Security State*, and it got me really interested in the history of the atomic bomb. I'd like to read the first public statement of any sort delivered by a US president that includes any mention of the atomic bomb. Can you help me find the president, the date, and the actual text of the statement? (You need to list the president's name and the date as well as a source that will give the full text of the statement.)

Answer:

(a) President: Harry S. Truman

Date: August 6, 1945

The full text of the "Statement by the President Announcing the Use of the A-Bomb at Hiroshima," the first public statement delivered by a US President that mentions the atomic bomb, is available on the Web site for *The American Presidency Project* at <http://www.presidency.ucsb.edu/ws/index.php?pid=12169&st=atomic&st1=bomb>. At the bottom of the Web page, there is a note about the statement's release.

(b) Because I did the secondary annotation for *The American Presidency Project* for our class wiki, I was already pretty familiar with the source, so I knew it would probably provide the answer to this question. I accessed the Web site and scrolled down to the search engine near the bottom of the site's homepage. Under Option 1: Search, I typed "atomic" in the first search field and "bomb" in the second search field, ensuring that the Boolean operator AND was selected. I noted that the date range defaulted to the range 1/1/1789 through 12/31/2011, so I didn't change the dates, as I wanted to ensure that I retrieved the very first public statement ever delivered by a US President that mentioned the atomic bomb. After submitting my query, I retrieved a list of 427 records, listed chronologically with the oldest—the one I needed to answer this question—at the top.

(c) **Question:** I recently listened to an audiobook by Robert Kiyosaki entitled *Rich Dad's Conspiracy of the Rich*, in which the author discussed the implications of President Nixon taking the American dollar off of the gold standard during his presidency. I was wondering when this occurred and how President Nixon first announced it to the American people.

Answer: *The American Presidency Project* is a great resource for questions pertaining to the papers, addresses, and other statements of US Presidents, and it should provide the information you are looking for. On the homepage, if you scroll down to the bottom of the screen, you will find the search engine. Let's try typing in some keywords under Option 1: Search. Notice how there are two search fields separated by the words AND, OR, and NOT. In this case, let's try searching for the keywords "gold" AND "standard." This should retrieve only documents in which both

of these words are found. Let's also choose "Richard Nixon" in the "President" dropdown menu, so that only documents related to his Presidency are retrieved. When we click "Submit Query," we get 27 records. We know that Nixon was President from 1969 to 1974, so we can ignore the first few results, which are dated during the period of his Vice Presidency. Looking over the titles of these various documents, some of them look like they might not deal with your topic, but this one from September 9, 1971, "Address to the Congress on Stabilization of the Economy" (<http://www.presidency.ucsb.edu/ws/index.php?pid=3140&st=gold&st1=standard>) looks like it might. Let's click on it and take a look. One nice thing about this site is that when you do a keyword search, your keywords are highlighted wherever they appear in the records your search retrieves, so let's look for "gold" or "standard." Here we go: "Twenty-five days ago...I ordered a temporary 10 percent surcharge on products imported from abroad, and I ordered the convertibility of the dollar into gold suspended." If you look at the note at the bottom of the page, you'll see that this address was broadcast live on radio and television. So this appears to be the first time this information was announced to the American people, and by counting back 25 days from the date of the address, you can conclude that the date on which the dollar was taken off the gold standard was August 15, 1971.

(d) I spent 30 minutes on this question from the time I accessed the Web site of *The American Presidency Project* until I am writing this.

13. I am studying poverty in my sociology class, and I am trying to find out what the "poverty line" was in 1960 and then again in 1990 for a family of four. What should I do to find this information? (You need to include the actual figures for both 1960 and 1990.)

Answer:

(a) We can find these figures in the *Historical Statistics of the United States Millennial Edition Online*, available through the King Library. From the main page, we can select option B, "Work and Welfare," in the Table of Contents on the left side of the page. Chapter Be, entitled "Economic Inequality and Poverty," contains 26 tables. There are nine tables dealing with poverty lines. Table Be95-112, "Weighted-average official poverty thresholds and selected alternative poverty lines, by family size: 1947-1999," provides poverty lines for a number of years, broken down by household size. According to this table, the poverty line for a family of four in 1960 was \$3,022 and in 1990 was \$13,359.

(b) Since this question dealt with historical data, I thought the *Historical Statistics of the United States* would have the information I needed. I found the database in the list of Databases A-Z on the King Library Web site. When I first arrived at the main page of the database, I wasn't sure how to find information on poverty lines. Rather than clicking on the link for "How to Find Data" (which would be too obvious a choice!), I typed "poverty line" into the Search HSUS field and clicked "Go." This brought me to several essays and tables. Without really taking the time to look over the list of results, I decided to try another approach. I went back to the main page and looked over the entries under "Table of Contents." At first I thought "Economic Structure and Performance" might be a good choice, so I clicked on it, but I did not see anything about poverty. I then clicked on "Work and Welfare." That is where I found the entry for "Economic Inequality and Poverty." I then clicked on the link for "Poverty Lines." There were nine tables in the list, and I noted that many of them were dated with a specific year, but none of those had the date 1960 or 1990. When I saw the one with the range 1947-1999, I thought it might have the information I needed, and it did.

(c) **Question:** I am an amateur meteorologist and I am fascinated by the weather, especially here in Seattle, where it can be sunny and warm one day and cold and rainy the next. Since Seattle has a reputation of getting so much more rain than other places, I'm interested in finding data that compares annual precipitation of Seattle with a number of other cities in the US. I want to know if Seattle really lives up to its reputation! Is there someplace where I can find all of this data together?

Answer: Yes! Let's take a look at the *Historical Statistics of the United States Millennial Edition Online*. In the section on "Economic Structure and Performance" there is a chapter called "Geography and the Environment." There are five tables related to weather, and one of them is called "Annual precipitation: 1895-1998 [Reference climatological stations]" (Table Cf484-549). On this table, you will find annual precipitation, in inches, for a number of US cities, including Seattle.

(d) I spent 30 minutes on this question from the time I accessed the database until I am writing this.

14. I have a friend who emailed me and told me she is moving to Belgium, and she wants me to visit. I am so excited to go visit her in Europe! I love Belgian waffles and chocolate! I already have my passport, some comfortable white athletic shoes for walking, a big fanny pack, and lots of batteries and 35mm film for my camera. But I'm confused, because she told me I should fly into Milwaukee and then take a bus to Belgium. What is she talking about? Where is she moving? (You need to state where Belgium actually is.)

Answer:

(a) According to the *Omni Gazetteer of the United States of America*, there is a town in Wisconsin called Belgium, which may explain your friend's instruction to fly into Milwaukee. We can find out more information about its location by looking at volume 10 of the *Omni Gazetteer*, which is the National Index. If we look under "Belgium" in the index, there are several entries for places called Belgium in different states, one of which is "WI," or Wisconsin. Since we already know there is a Milwaukee in Wisconsin, we can assume that this is the Belgium to which your friend is moving. The National Index points us to volume 6, on the Great Lakes States. According to the Table of Contents in volume 6, information about Wisconsin begins on page 651. The place names are listed alphabetically, so we just have to turn a few pages to page 656, on which there are two entries for Belgium: "Belgium 53004" and "Belgium (Town of)," both of which are located in Ozaukee county. The latitude/longitude coordinates of Belgium 53004 are given as 43 29 59N-087 51 01W.

(b) Based on the information in the annotations on our class wiki, I thought the *Omni Gazetteer* would be a good source to consult for this question. Rather than pulling all of the volumes off the shelf, I pulled out the National Index and looked up "Belgium" right there in the stacks. My knowledge that there is a Milwaukee in Wisconsin allowed me to hone right in on the Belgium that I was looking for, the one in Wisconsin. When I saw the cross-reference to volume 6, I pulled it off the shelf and used the table of contents to find the section on Wisconsin. I then went through the alphabetical listing of place names to find Belgium and the details about its location.

(c) **Question:** During the Winter Olympics last year, I remember hearing that there is another Vancouver in the Pacific Northwest besides the one in British Columbia, but I can't remember what state it is in. Can you help me find out where the "other" Vancouver is?

Answer: Yes! This information would be in the *Omni Gazetteer of the United States of America*, which is a guide to place names in the US. Let's look at the National

Index in volume 10. If we look under "Vancouver," we see that there is a Vancouver in Washington State.

- (d) I spent 18 minutes on this question from the moment I pulled the National Index off the shelf until I am writing this.
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15. Primary Annotation:

Literary Market Place

Primary annotator: Sarah Hashemi Scott

Hallard, K., Lutter, M., & Sposobiec, V. (Eds.). (2009). *Literary Market Place 2010: The directory of the book publishing industry with industry yellow pages* (Vols. 1-2). Medford, NJ: Information Today, Inc.

This hefty two-volume resource, which has been published annually for over 70 years, touts itself as "the leading directory of the American and Canadian book publishing industry" and "the most comprehensive directory of its kind" (p. ix). Including information about the book publishing industry itself as well as service providers and suppliers to the industry, *Literary Market Place (LMP)* allows users to perform targeted searches, finding listings either by company name or by a variety of other categories, including type of publication, subject specialty, or geographic location. The audience for this resource includes authors, publishers, editors, literary agents, librarians, booksellers, trade associations, and anyone with an interest in book publishing.

Each of the two volumes of *LMP* begins with a table of contents and a preface describing the directory's organization, content and indexes as well as the publisher's methods of compiling and updating the content, related services (such as access to *LMP* on the Web), and cautionary notes to authors seeking publishers and agents. Also included at the front of each volume is an Editorial Revision Form, to be used by current entrants to update their information or by prospective entrants to nominate themselves for inclusion, as well as a list of abbreviations and acronyms used throughout *LMP*.

Volume 1 lists information about the book publishing industry: Book Publishers; Editorial Services & Agents; Associations, Events, Courses & Awards; Books & Magazines for the Trade; and Indexes; each main section is divided into subsections, allowing more focused searching. The indexes, which reference listings appearing only in Volume 1, include Industry Yellow Pages, which are divided into a Company Index and a Personnel Index; a Publishers Toll Free Directory listing entrants' toll free telephone (and sometimes fax) numbers; an Index to Sections, for locating specific categories of information; and an Index to Advertisers.

Volume 2 lists information about service providers and suppliers to the book publishing industry: Advertising, Marketing & Publicity; Book Manufacturing; Sales & Distribution; Services & Suppliers; and Indexes; again, each main section is divided into subsections. The indexes in Volume 2 are organized like those in Volume 1 except that they reference listings appearing only in Volume 2 and do not include a

Toll Free Directory.

At the beginning of each section of *LMP*, information is included that pertains to the listings in that section. For example, at the beginning of the section on U.S. Publishers, there are notes on publishing output requirements for inclusion, the definition of a book for the purposes of inclusion, and information on locating publishers involved in electronic publishing; at the beginning of the section on Magazines for the Trade, it is noted that the magazines listed are published specifically for the book trade industry and readers seeking a comprehensive international directory of periodicals are referred to *Ulrich's Periodicals Directory*. This information helps to define the scope of *LMP's* contents and promotes more efficient use of the resource.

Question: I'm a high school junior who is interested in a career in the book publishing industry, and I am trying to find colleges that offer coursework or undergraduate degree programs in this field. I know that most of these programs are concentrated in New York, but I'd really love to go to college somewhere on the West Coast in order to stay closer to my family, who all live in Oregon. Can you help me determine whether any colleges on the West Coast offer such programs and if so, which ones?

Answer: *Literary Market Place* includes a section on Courses for the Book Trade (pp. 725-730). While the listings are alphabetical by institution or program name and not categorized by geographic location, a quick scan of the listings reveals that there are three West Coast programs related to publishing and the book trade: Stanford Publishing Courses at Stanford University, University of California Extension Professional Sequence in Copyediting & Courses in Publishing, and University of Southern California, Master of Professional Writing Program. However, none of these programs offer undergraduate degrees. The Stanford program offers courses "for working professionals" (p. 728). The University of California program is a certificate program in editing (p. 729). And the University of Southern California program is a Master's level program. This list of courses and programs may not be exhaustive, so let's do some more research and look at some additional sources.

Secondary Annotation:

American Presidency Project online at <http://www.presidency.ucsb.edu/> (includes Public Papers of the President)

Secondary annotator: Sarah Hashemi Scott

The homepage of *The American Presidency Project* Web site includes a sampling of content from throughout the site, including noteworthy State of the Union addresses from the site's complete archive and a clickable list of the site's ten most viewed documents. The search engine, provided through collaboration with the Harry S. Truman Library, is located near the bottom of the homepage screen, so viewers must scroll down in their browser windows in order to perform searches. The search engine is divided into three sections: *Search*, which allows keyword searching using the Boolean operators *and*, *or*, and *not* and also allows limiting by date range, document category or specific President; *Select*, which allows searching by Public Papers Document #, Executive Order #, or Proclamation #; and *Browse*, which allows browsing by document category, specific President, or date. The *Search* and *Browse* categories also allow users to exclude documents from the Office of the Press

Secretary from their results. In addition, on some *but not all* pages within the site's various sections, the search engine is available in the left-hand column of the page in a slightly different layout.

The *Data* section of the Web site includes data relating to the Presidents' relations with Congress, popularity, public appearances, growth of the executive branch, Presidential selection, State of the Union and Inaugural Address Charts, and Presidential disability. Data is generally presented in table or chart formats.

A unique feature of the site is a section of documents specifically related to the 2000 election dispute, at <http://www.presidency.ucsb.edu/florida2000.php>. It includes documents by or relating to the candidates, the courts, the legislature, the "spin," and other voices.

Question: I am doing my undergraduate thesis in Political Science on the 2000 Presidential election dispute and I am looking for court documents related to this case. Can you help me find a resource in which all of these documents have been compiled?

Answer: *The American Presidency Project* Web site has a special section of documents related to the 2000 election dispute. In that section, under "The Courts," you will find links to various documents in PDF or HTML format from the Florida Supreme Court, Florida 11th Circuit Court, United States Supreme Court, and U.S. 11th Circuit Court of Appeals.

16. **Discovery Annotation:**

The Encyclopedia of the Renaissance

Bergin, Thomas G. and Speake, Jennifer (editors)
Market House Books Ltd., 1987

Annotation: *The Encyclopedia of the Renaissance* is a single-volume work that provides short entries on "all the principle issues, events, and people in Europe throughout the fourteenth, fifteenth, and sixteenth centuries" (book jacket). The content is arranged alphabetically, with black-and-white images throughout the book and a collection of color plates at the center, and the alphabetical arrangement is self-indexing, with asterisks appearing before words in the text that denote cross-references to separate entries.

Question: What was the name of King Henry VIII's son by Jane Seymour?

Answer: Edward VI. We can find this in *The Encyclopedia of the Renaissance* by looking up the entry for Henry VIII (pp. 207-208) and scanning the text.

- Sarah Hashemi Scott