

# The Internet and the World Wide Web

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ CLASS: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

The Internet is a network of computer networks. It uses computer software and hardware to allow computers to communicate with each other worldwide. Internet users can connect to computers from all over the world and can send and receive information in seconds. The World Wide Web (WWW) structures and organizes a large part of the information on the Internet in an easy to use format including text, graphics, video and audio. If you have any questions while doing this exercise, ask the librarian for assistance.

## WEB BROWSERS

A software program called a **BROWSER** provides access to the World Wide Web. Browsers allow you to click on words or images to move from page to page. There are many types of browser programs, the two most popular are Mozilla's Firefox and Microsoft's Internet Explorer.

Go to one of the computers and double click on the **INTERNET EXPLORER** icon to view the main page (or home page) of the library's website. <http://www.santarosa.edu/library/>

From the library's home page, select the blue tab labeled **Web Search** under **Start Your Research Here**, click on **Recommended Web Sites**. You should see a screen that looks like the one below. Note the labeled features. You will be using these to complete this exercise.

*Please Note: The screens pictured in this assignment only approximate the actual computer screens.*

The screenshot shows the Santa Rosa Junior College Libraries website. Labels with arrows point to various browser and page elements:

- Status Bar:** Located at the bottom of the browser window, showing the current page URL.
- Back Button:** The left arrow icon in the browser's navigation bar.
- Address Bar (with URL):** The text input field at the top of the browser showing the current page address.
- Toolbar:** The row of icons below the address bar, including search, home, and refresh buttons.
- Home Button:** The house icon in the browser's navigation bar.
- Links:** The navigation menu at the top of the website, including "SRJC HOME", "LIBRARY MOBILE", "LIBRARY CONTACTS", and "LIBRARY HOURS".
- Scroll Bar:** The vertical bar on the right side of the browser window used to navigate through the page content.

The website content includes a header for "SANTA ROSA JUNIOR COLLEGE LIBRARIES", a navigation menu, and a main section titled "Internet Resources" with a "Featured Web Sites" carousel and a "Web Sites by Subject Tag" list.

Look through the colored links appearing below the title **Internet Resources**. (Links are highlighted words and images pointing to other documents on the Web.) Clicking on these links with a computer mouse selects, retrieves and displays information at other locations on the Internet.

Click on the **Statistics** link. Under Statistics there are links to many resources.

Click on the **American FactFinder** link under the heading **United States**.

Click on the **Population Clocks** link located under the **Population Data** heading to the right of your screen to view a projection for today's U.S. and World Population.

What figure does the U.S. Bureau of the Census project for the total population of the world at this moment?

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Click on the **Back** button until you return to the **U.S. Census Bureau's** page.

Look through the links listed and choose one that interests you. What is the title of the link?

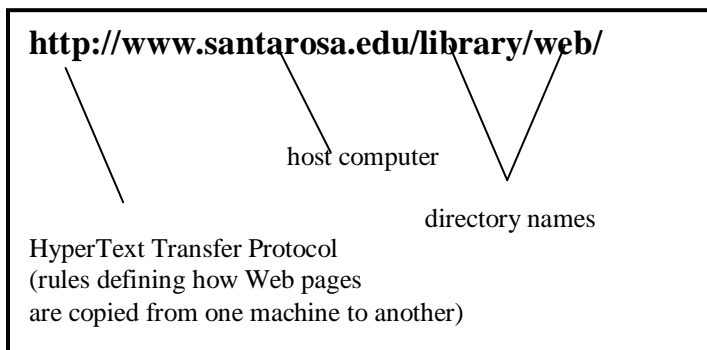
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## URLs

Each LINK has a Uniform Resource Locator or URL. The URL is like an address for the link and begins with `http://` followed by letters, sometimes numbers and slashes.

For example, the URL for the Internet Resources page is:



When you retrieve a document, the URL is displayed in the **address bar** near the top of the window.

Click in the address bar and delete the URL listed by pressing the **Delete** button.

Type in: **`http://www.secretservice.gov`**  
Press the **Return/Enter** key to go to this URL.

Look for the heading **Investigations** and click on the **Know Your Money** link. Scroll through the **Table of Contents** page, select a link that looks interesting and click on it.

What is the title of the link you selected?

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Give one interesting fact learned.

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## SUBJECT DIRECTORIES AND SEARCH ENGINES

Subject directories organize links to web sites by subject categories for easy browsing. Research directories (such as ip12) select high quality sources and often include short abstracts or descriptions of the sites in their collection. Commercial directories are less discriminating and may include web sites based on listing fees.

Search engines search the web for topics or subjects that you specify. Each search engine searches a different collection of sites, so you may want to use more than one search engine when researching a topic.

Return to the Libraries' home page and select the blue **Web Search** tab. Click on **Internet Search Guide** at the bottom of the grey box. This is one of many library guides that help you with researching. Select the **Subject Directories** tab and read the information on this page. Now click on **ip12** on the right side of the page. Find and click on **Resources by Subject**, then select the **Reference** link. Scroll through the links and choose one of interest to you.

What is the title and the URL of the link?

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Explore the site you chose and give one interesting fact learned.

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## Google Searching

Return to the **Internet Search Tools Guide** and select the **Search Engines** tab. From this page, review the information on search engines, then select **Google**. Click in the search box, type **terrorism**, and then press the **Return/Enter** key. The search engine will search for web pages or documents related to the topic you typed.

Choose one of the sites listed in the results list. Give the title and URL of the site you chose.

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Click on the **link** of the site you chose above. Write a brief description of the information found at the Web site for this link.

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Go back to the **Library Home** page. You will notice that the default search engine is **Google Scholar**. This is a set of web sites that is filtered for academic level research. Using this will limit your search. Now redo the search on terrorism. You will notice the difference in the results.

Click in the search box, type **terrorism**, and then press the **Return/Enter** key. The search engine will search for web pages or documents related to the topic you typed.

Choose one of the sites listed in the results list. Give the title and URL of the site you chose.

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Click on the **link** of the site you chose above. Write a brief description of the information found at the Web site for this link.

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 If you are wondering how Google is filtering your searches, view this video on “filtering bubbles” at [www.ted.com/talks/eli\\_pariser\\_beware\\_online\\_filter\\_bubbles.html](http://www.ted.com/talks/eli_pariser_beware_online_filter_bubbles.html).

## A NOTE OF CAUTION

Anyone can put a page on the World Wide Web. There is no central authority to check pages for accuracy, currency, or objectivity. While you can rely on sources like the U.S. Census Bureau, many sources have commercial, political, or other agendas that must be considered.

Click on the **Home** Button in the toolbar. From the library’s Menu drag your cursor over the **Research FAQs** tab at the top of the home page and you will see a pull-down menu. From the pull-down menu click on the **How Do I Evaluate Information?** link. Read the information and review the criteria listed.

List 3 criteria for evaluating a web page:

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You may look at other items or end your search session by clicking on the **HOME** Button in the toolbar.