

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

## FALL 2023 FRESHMAN LIBRARY ORIENTATION INTERNET-ACCESSIBLE SOURCES (FREE-WEB SITES///SUBSCRIPTION DATABASES)

Much (if not all) of the research you've done in the past has most likely been done using the Internet. You will continue to use the Internet . . . but you'll often be accessing that information in a way that may be new to you. There should be \_\_\_\_\_ to research than just a quick Google search!

### What Exactly Is the Internet?

The Internet is a “global system of \_\_\_\_\_ computer \_\_\_\_\_” that enables you to access information stored in files on computers all around the world. The Internet itself is NOT a source—it's simply the network where the sources you need or want to use are stored. The Internet, the Web, and Google are all related terms, but they are not the same. The Internet (initially a government research network that dates back to the 1960s) is the physical computer network. The Web (early 1990s) is the term used to describe the system that links documents that are accessed using the Internet. Google (created in the late 1990s) is one of many programs that search the Web. Saying that you found information “on the Internet” is meaningless—all that says is that you found the information on a computer network. \_\_\_\_\_ you found the information is what matters!

### Free-Web Sites

When you use a search engine like Google or Bing for research, keep in mind that:

- 1) All information is not accessible using the Internet. \_\_\_\_\_ search engine has access to everything that IS stored there—and much of what is there is not accessible for free.
- 2) Go \_\_\_\_\_ the first few results—do not assume that a site is best just because it's one of the first ones listed in the results.
- 3) Search engines like Google do NOT evaluate sites. It is your responsibility to determine whether or not you have a credible, \_\_\_\_\_ free-web site suitable for academic research.

A search engine like Google is not the ONLY way to access information stored on the Internet. Subscription \_\_\_\_\_ can give you access to sources that Google cannot.

### Subscription Databases

A database is “a collection of information that is organized so that it can be easily accessed and maintained.” Reference book articles, newspaper and magazine articles, journal articles, pictures, and more can be found in the online databases for which the school pays \_\_\_\_\_ fees for you to have the right to use them. Access is limited because these ARE \_\_\_\_\_ subscriptions. You'll be using the Internet all of the time –but Google doesn't get you to these Internet-accessible sources that we pay to use.

Having access to quality research information is essential. What you're looking for will determine what's best—but the databases will often be the better choice for \_\_\_\_\_ research. Universities like Yale and Harvard spend \_\_\_\_\_ of dollars per year for online subscriptions because they want their students to have access to MORE than just what's accessible for free—we want the same for you when you're doing research here at MTHS.

## **MTHS Library Subscription Databases**

These \_\_\_\_\_ subscription databases to which MTHS subscribes are accessible anywhere there is Internet access—don't forget this when you're working on research projects at home! The login for all of our databases is \_\_\_\_\_; the password is \_\_\_\_\_.

***American History***—articles covering more than 500 years of American political, military, social, and cultural history.

***Ancient and Medieval History***—world history from prehistory through the mid-1500s.

***Bloom's Literature***--reference essays and literary criticism examining the lives of great authors and their works. Also includes the full text of more than 1,000 books, 2,600 poems, and 100 short stories.

***Britannica School***—basic encyclopedia (with three reading levels for many of the articles).

***CQ Researcher***—database of single-themed reports on health, social trends, criminal justice, international affairs, education, the environment, technology, the economy, and more. Articles date back to 1923 (giving an historical perspective for many topics).

***CultureGrams***--covers 200+ countries, all 50 U.S. states, and the Canadian provinces and includes a photo gallery, slideshows, video clips, famous people, interviews, and a unique recipe collection.

***Ferguson's Career Guidance Center***—detailed information on more than 150 industries and 1,200 professions.

***Gale eBooks***—an ebook collection of **reference** books that cover many different topics.

***Gale in Context: Biography***-- more than 640,000 biographical entries covering international figures from all time periods and areas of study.

***Gale in Context: High School***—comprehensive database that contains a collection of articles from reference works, newspaper and magazine articles, academic journal articles, and multimedia files.

***Gale in Context: Opposing Viewpoints***—comprehensive coverage of today's social issues (including pro and con articles, reference articles, magazine and newspaper articles, statistics, and more).

***Gale OneFile: Leadership and Management***—education topics —primarily for faculty.

***Issues and Controversies***—hundreds of topics of interest in business, politics, government, education, crime, law, energy, health, family, science, race, rights, society, and culture.

***Modern World History***—covers the people, places, and events in the broad expanse of history from the mid-15th century to the present.

***ProQuest Central Student***—millions of articles from thousands of full-text scholarly journals, magazines, and newspapers.

***Salem Online***—an ebook collection of reference books that are also available in print.

***Teen Health and Wellness***—covers a wide variety of topics (body basics, diseases, drugs and alcohol, family life, friendships and dating, nutrition, fitness, grief and loss, etc.).

***World Geography and Culture Online***--comprehensive country profiles as well as detailed information about the U.S. states, Canadian provinces, and international territories.