Self-Assessment of Current Academic Research Abilities and Knowledge

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Name:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | Group: | A | B | C | D |

### Define the following terms:

Thesis statement

Primary source

Secondary source

Boolean search operators

Peer review

Plagiarism

### Answer the following questions

Where do you locate academic sources when doing research for an assignment?

Are you registered at the State and University Library? Yes/No

Have you ever searched for and located a book at the State and University Library? Yes/No

Have you ever searched for and located an academic journal article at the State and University Library? Yes/No

List 3 academic databases available through the State and University Library and a research area for which they are useful

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Academic database** | **Research area** |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |

If a book is not available from the State and University Library, what are your options, if any, for getting that book from another library?

Name *one* method for documenting sources that you cite in a paper with which you are familiar.

How do you distinguish between an academic and a non-academic source?

### IT Skills

Please rate your skills with the following computer software and IT use on a scale of 1 (poor)–5 (very good):

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| MS Word |  |
| MS PowerPoint |  |
| MS Excel |  |
| Web browser (Internet Explorer, Firefox, Safari, Chrome, etc.) |  |
| Ability to locate information on the World Wide Web |  |
| Overall skills with a PC |  |

Were you familiar with FirstClass before beginning at English? Yes/No

Are you familiar with the online bibliographic management program Refworks? Yes/No