Sample Bibliographic Instruction (BI) Assessment Questions and Response Tallies Spring 2014

As a result of professional development in writing and assessing learning outcomes, BRCC librarians created a unit goal for 2013-14 to rewrite the learning outcomes and assessment tool for our LIBS 101 course. This was extended to create an assessment for bibliographic instruction sessions. Previously these sessions were evaluated by students, but student learning was not assessed due to the brief time allotted. The new learning outcomes for the course are also used for bibliographic instruction sessions. They are:

- formulate an efficient search in library electronic resources, using appropriate search fields and language
- find scholarly information on an assigned topic using library electronic resources
- evaluate the reliability of an information source using standard criteria

As bibliographic instruction sessions are tailored to individual class needs, a bank of example questions was created. Each assessment used pulls 5 questions from the examples.

The data collected in this report were gathered from the library’s Spring 2014 pilot test of this new system for assessing bibliographic instruction (BI) sessions. In some instances, librarians added their own questions not taken from the question bank to the assessment to reflect the content of BI sessions designed for students in a specific discipline.

BI Assessment Results

Assessments given to 528 students across a variety of classes in a range of disciplines during Spring 2014 were analyzed to determine the percentages of correct versus incorrect responses to assessment questions. It was found that the majority of student responses to assessment questions were correct, with 79.6% correct responses overall. Only 20.3% of responses to assessment questions in the sample were incorrect.
Assessment Questions
The questions below are included in a bank of questions that librarians can use to create their own assessments for BI sessions.

Sample Assessment Question Bank
1. Using an online database, like “Academic Search Complete” is the same as using the Internet.
   A. True
   B. False
2. The screenshot above comes from one of the library's online databases. What is this a citation for?
A. Book
B. Article
C. eBook
D. Video

3. The Advanced Search feature of a search engine allows the user to limit results to a specific domain.
A. True
B. False

4. AND, OR and NOT are examples of what?
A. subject terms
B. keywords
C. Boolean operators
D. citations

5. Authority, comprehensiveness, and accuracy are examples of what?
A. search criteria
B. evaluation criteria
C. selection criteria
6. A person’s account of an event at the time it happened is considered a
   A. primary source
   B. secondary source

7. Materials to consult for facts or an overview of a topic are called
   A. database articles
   B. online catalogs
   C. reference sources
   D. search results

8. The online catalog allows you to choose to search only for physical books on a topic.
   A. True
   B. False

9. Up to four BRCC students at a time can access an electronic book in our collection.
   A. True
   B. False

10. One of the best online databases to search for general topics is
    A. Academic Search Complete
    B. Literary Lessons and Criticism
    C. College Source Online
    D. Oxford Educational Online