Literature Searching Cheat Sheet

University of Sussex Library

Search

**Boolean 'OR'**

Using **OR** (must be in capital letters) in between your search words finds resources with **at least one** those words. **For example**: teen OR youth OR adolescent.

**Double Parentheses**

Placing a phrase in double quote marks finds the exact matching phrase or set of words. **For example**: "social psychology" finds resources where the words "social" and "psychology" appear next to one another.

**Truncation/ Stem Searching**

The asterisk is a wildcard symbol that broadens a search by finding words that start with the same letters. **For example**: behav* finds: behaves, behaving, behavior, behaviour.

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