

## Creating Search Strategies - Template

### Steps to consider before beginning a search

#### Step 1: Consider what your research topic or question is.

Indicate your search topic or research question:

#### Step 2: Identify major concepts

Identify the main concepts of your topic:

1.	2.	3.	4.
----	----	----	----

#### Step 3: What are other terms/synonyms for each of the concepts identified?

Use the main concepts and translate these into keywords and synonyms (don't forget about " " and \*):

	Concept 1	AND	Concept 2	AND	Concept 3	AND	Concept 4
OR							
OR							
OR							
OR							
OR							

#### Step 4: Apply Search Tools to create an effective search strategy

<b>OR</b>	Use the Boolean Operator <b>OR</b> to search different synonyms (this will expand your search).
<b>AND</b>	Use the Boolean Operator <b>AND</b> to combine different concepts (this will narrow your search).
<b>NOT</b>	Use the Boolean Operator <b>NOT</b> to indicate concepts that should not be reflected in your results.
<b>" "</b>	Use Quotation Marks <b>" "</b> around a concept with more than one term (this will narrow your results by creating a phrase search).
<b>*</b>	Place an Asterisk <b>*</b> at the root of any term to increase your search options for terms with the same root (this will expand your results).

#### Step 5: Utilize the Search Filters to Expand or Limit Your Results

<b>Date Range</b>	Define how current the publication of sources can be.
<b>Source Format</b>	Define what format of sources (e.g., print book, eBook, journal article, image, etc.) are required.
<b>Subject</b>	Further filter your sources, by selecting listed subject terms relevant to your search.

For more information or research help:

Stop by the Keyano Library, email [askthelibrary@keyano.ca](mailto:askthelibrary@keyano.ca), or request a Book a Librarian session on [www.keyano.ca/library](http://www.keyano.ca/library) via the Research Help page.