

# I Swear, It's Just Research!

Hiding bodies, launching things into space, forging swords, et cetera.

August 17, 2024. When Words Collide, Calgary, AB.  
Cheryl D. Bain [theunrestrictedlibrarian.com](http://theunrestrictedlibrarian.com)



# What am I here to talk about today?

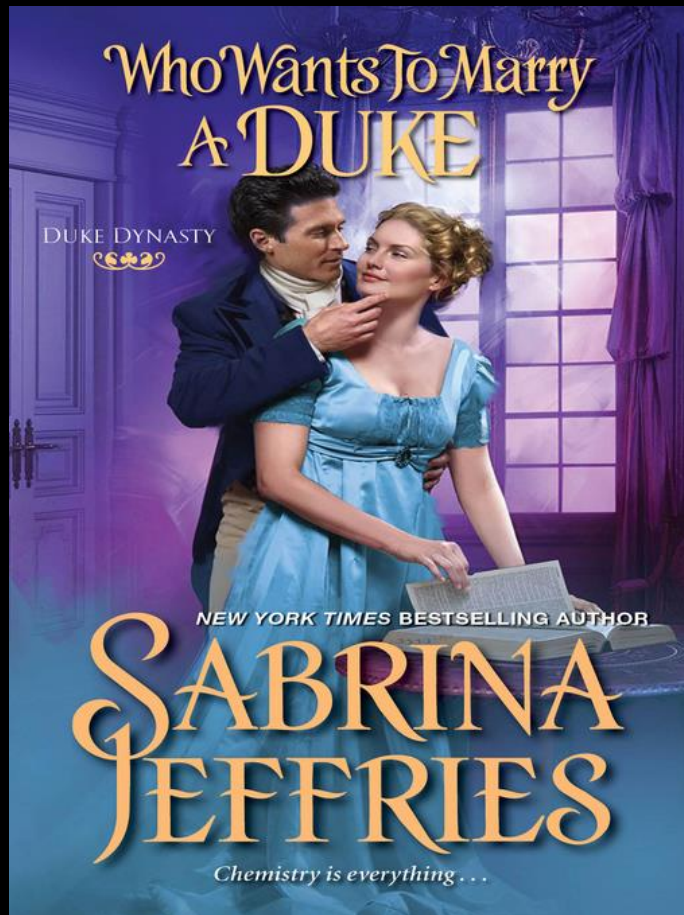
- Why is research important?
- How to recognize an untrustworthy information source
- Sources for answering quick questions
- Online collections of free sources for in-depth research
  - Books, magazines, catalogues, etc. (Hathi Trust)
  - Educational resources (Open Educational Resources Commons)
- Other (almost) free resources



Why is research important?

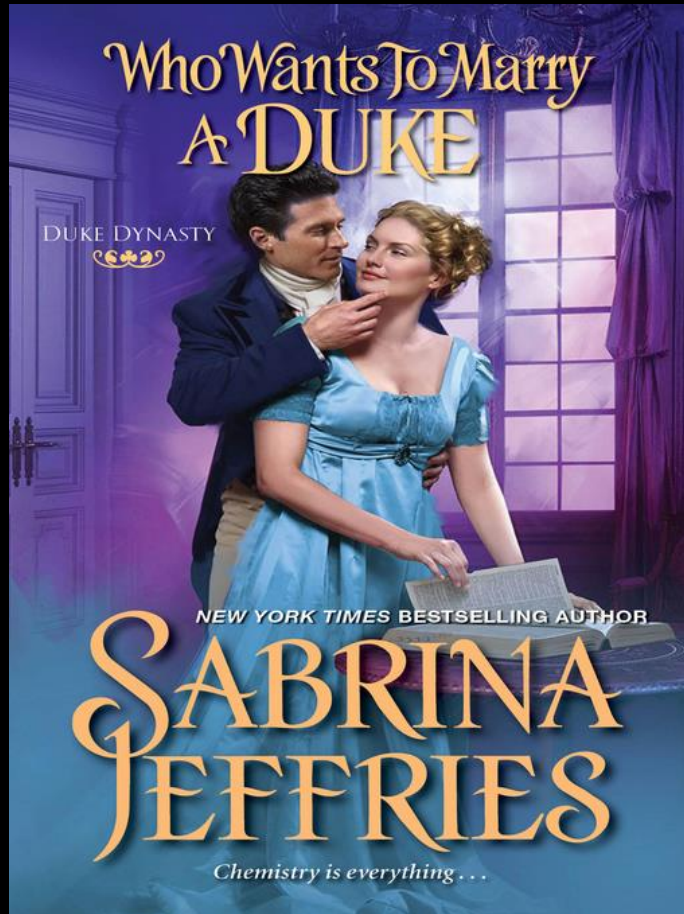
Discussion (2 min max)

# What can happen when you get the research wrong?





# What can happen when you get the research wrong?



For the next hour, he got to unpack boxes and leave her to examine each item to decide where it went. She wore a look of pure bliss as she moved from table to shelf, arranging and organizing and setting up equipment that had been broken down for the journey.

There were names of ingredients he'd never heard of—**aqua regia**, nitrate of potash, muriatic acid, green vitriol, salt of wormwood, spirit of ether, and a dozen other mysterious compounds.

Chapter 6

Aqua regia is not something that you transport! You could transport the chemical ingredients, but it need to be prepared shortly before use.

# What can happen when you get the research wrong?

Ways Owen or Claire should have been killed by volcano and/or lava:

- At least three times...I got too distracted by the errors to keep track.

There were more errors that slipped by me...

- <https://www.iflscience.com/theres-a-huge-scientific-problem-with-jurassic-world-fallen-kingdom-and-it-has-nothing-to-do-with-dinosaurs-48272>



Image source: <https://www.imdb.com/title/tt4881806/>



How can you tell if a source is trustworthy?

Discussion (2 min max)

# Is your source CRAAP(P)?

Non-Writers

Currency  
Relevance  
Authority  
Accuracy  
Purpose

Writers

Currency  
Relevance  
Authority  
Accuracy  
Purpose  
Plot



# The CRAAP test – questions to ask

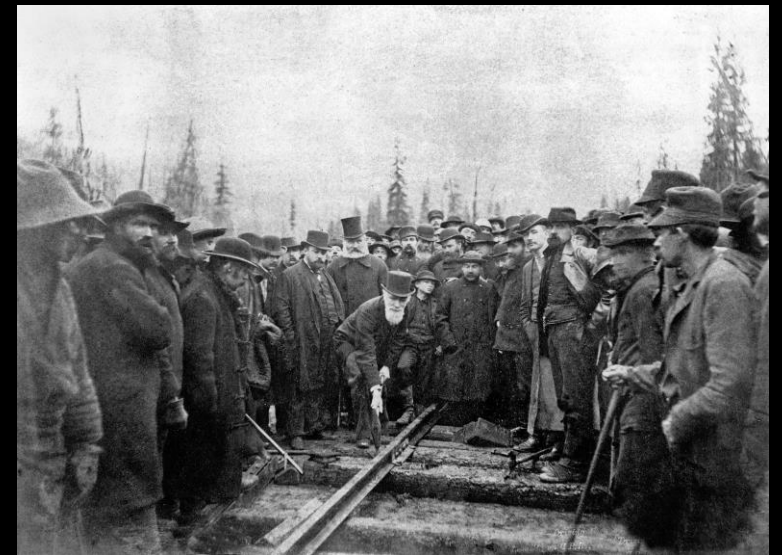


<b>Current</b>	How recently was the information created or published?
<b>Relevant</b>	Is the information related to your topic? Is it at the level of detail that you need?
<b>Authority</b>	Who created the material, and do they know what they are talking about?
<b>Accurate</b>	Does the creator seem biased? Did they make any obvious errors?
<b>Purpose</b>	Why was this created?

# Currency

How recently was the information created or published?

- Different topic become out-of-date at different speeds
  - Weather reports vs. 1918 population of Canada



# Currency



## As a Writer:

- Do you need to know both what was current knowledge *during the story* and what we currently know?
  - We call it “World War I,” but would my character?
  - Medical terms especially will shift

Image by [Jakub Luksch](#) from [Pixabay](#)  
Image by [Lukas Bieri](#) from [Pixabay](#)



# Relevance

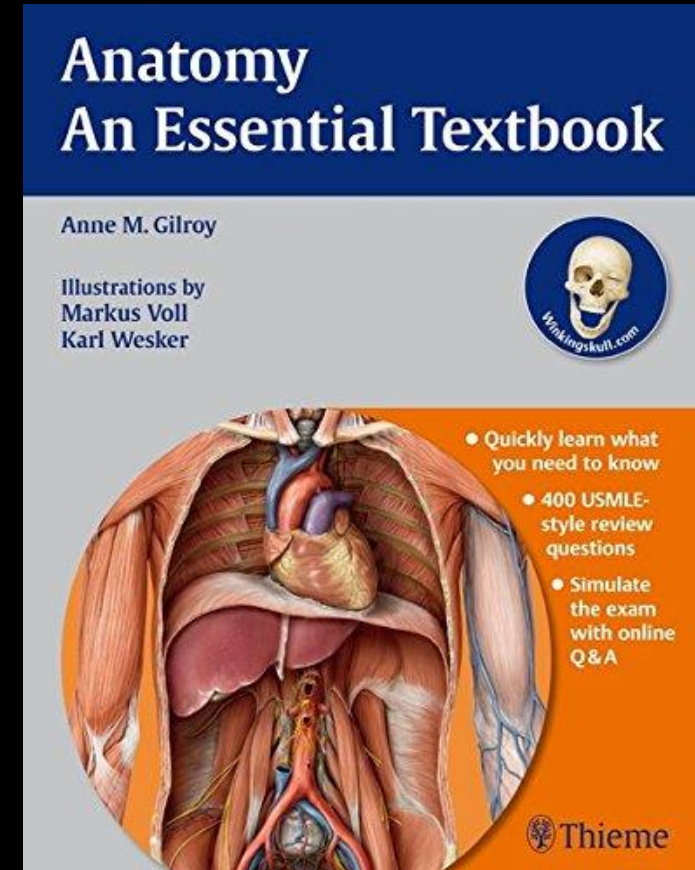
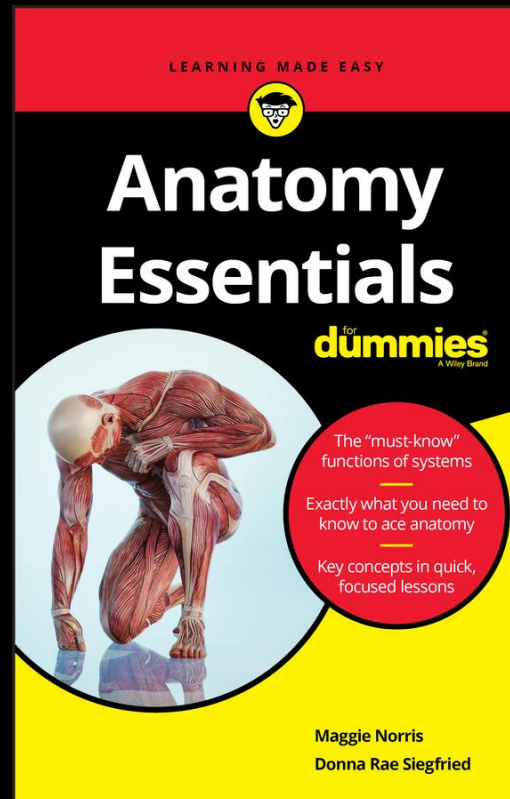
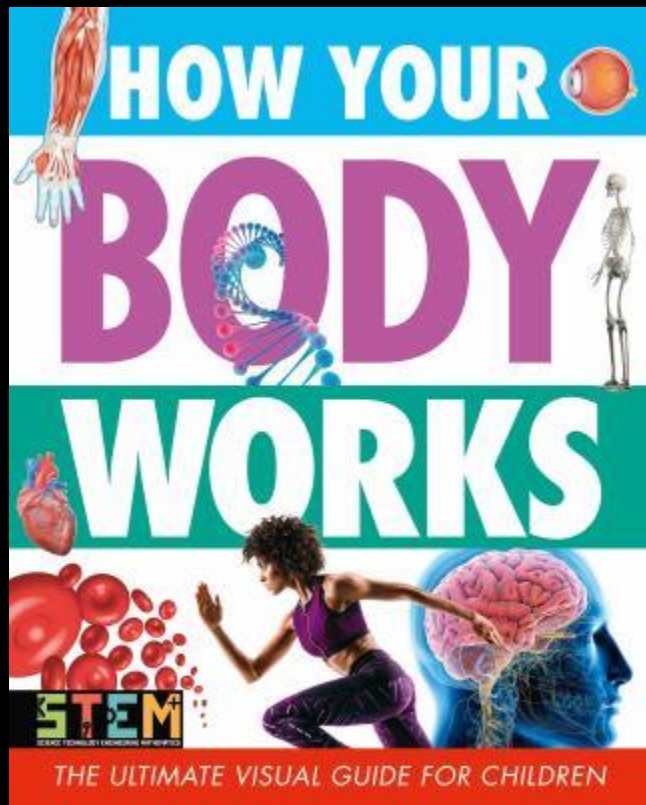
- Is the information related to your topic?





# Relevance

- Is it at the level of detail that you need?



<https://calgary.bibliocommons.com/v2/record/S95C1359170>

<https://www.dummies.com/book/academics-the-arts/science/anatomy/anatomy-essentials-for-dummies-292803/>

[https://ucalgary.primo.exlibrisgroup.com/permalink/01UCALG\\_INST/1rf6mu5/alma991029856002704336](https://ucalgary.primo.exlibrisgroup.com/permalink/01UCALG_INST/1rf6mu5/alma991029856002704336)

# Relevance

## Writers

- How in-depth do you need to understand the topic to avoid critical research fails?
- Would being vague about something affect your target audience's enjoyment?



Image by [Kardono Kardono](#) from [Pixabay](#)

# Authority



*"On the Internet, nobody knows you're a dog."*



# Authority

- Who wrote it? (Individual or organization)
  - “About” page on a website or in a book
  - YouTube has an “about” section if you click on the channel information
- What qualifications do they have?
- Just because someone is an authority in one area, doesn't make them an authority in all areas!



# Authority

## Writers

- Would my character trust and/or agree with this source?
  - Yes, you can intentionally get things wrong! You need to choose when!



Image by [Lukas Bieri](#) from [Pixabay](#)

# Accuracy

- What is the tone of the information?
  - Does the creator seem biased?
  - Does it rely more on opinion than fact, more on emotion than logic.
  - Does it contain extensive flattery of people who agree with them, and personal attacks against those who disagree
- Do other sources agree with what you are reading?
- Look out for basic factual errors and/or grammar and spelling errors!



Image by [Ciker-Free-Vector-Images](#)  
from [Pixabay](#)

# Accuracy

## Writers

- Was this believed to be accurate in the time I am setting my story?
- Would my character believe it is accurate for other reasons?



Image by [Lukas Bieri](#) from [Pixabay](#)

Image by [C1ker-Free-Vector-Images](#) from [Pixabay](#)

# Purpose

Why was this created?

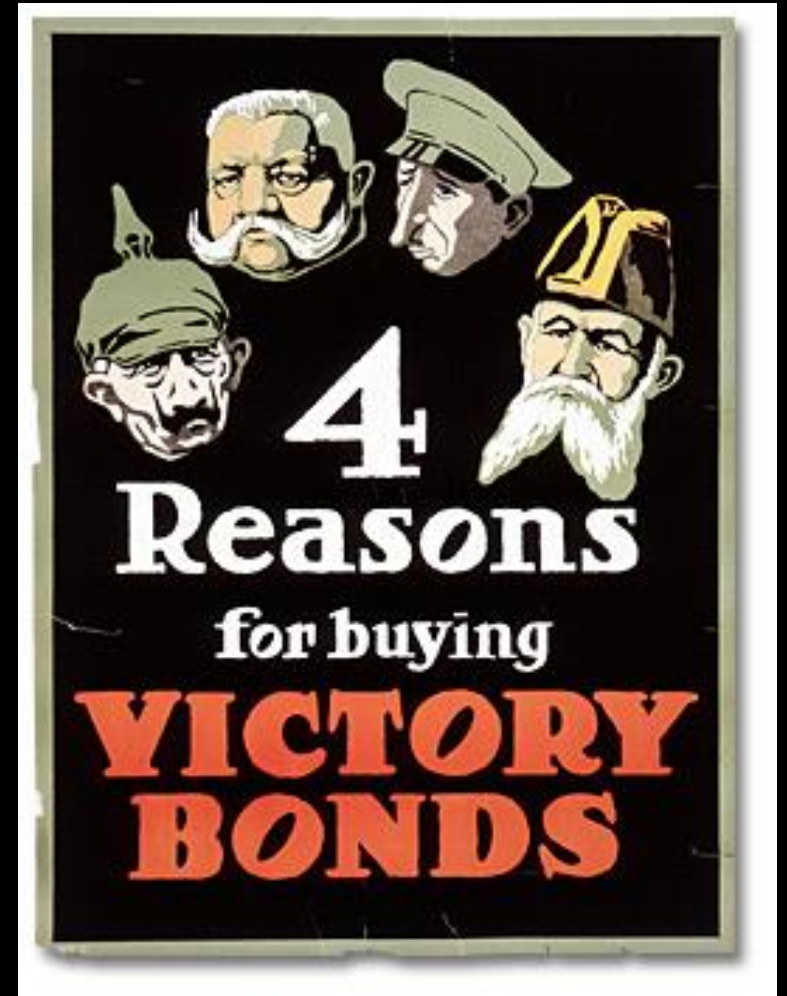
- To teach?
- To entertain?
- To sell something?
- To further an agenda the creator has?
- A combination?



# Purpose

## Writers

- If you are bringing some specific information into your world, how would your character interact with it?
- Eg: would they pick up on propaganda? Would they react negatively to it?

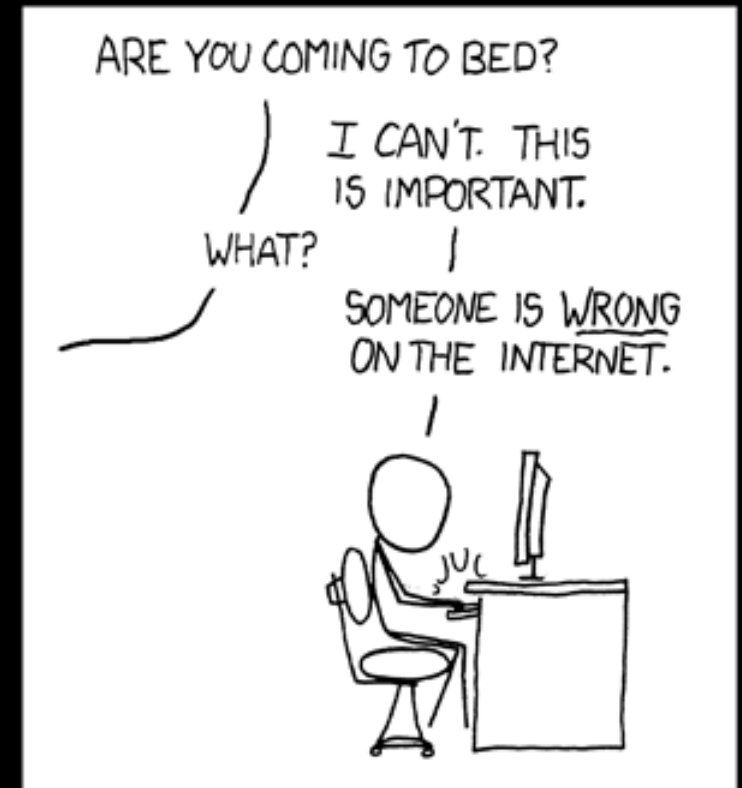


<https://www.archives.gov.on.ca/en/explore/online/posters/index.aspx>

# Plot

## Writers only

- Is getting this correct critical to the plot, or am I just being a perfectionist?
- How likely is it that someone will notice and care that it is incorrect?
- Do you want your readers to lose sleep?



Source: <https://xkcd.com/386/>

# Plot

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- Is getting this correct critical to the plot, or am I just being a perfectionist?
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Source: <https://xkcd.com/386/>



# More about evaluating info sources

- University of Alberta  
<https://pressbooks.openeducationalberta.ca/libraryskills200/chapter/evaluating-resources/>
- University of Calgary  
<https://libguides.ucalgary.ca/c.php?g=630437&p=4404569>
- Central Michigan University  
[https://libguides.cmich.edu/web\\_research/craap](https://libguides.cmich.edu/web_research/craap)



# Sources for answering quick questions



# Should you use Wikipedia?

“the average science entry in Wikipedia contained around four inaccuracies; Britannica, about three”

Nature **438**, 900–901 (2005). <https://doi.org/10.1038/438900a>

“...when the stakes are low (you need a piece of information to settle a bet with your roommate, or you want to get a basic sense of what something means before starting more in-depth research), you may get what you need from Wikipedia.”

Harvard University Library <https://usingsources.fas.harvard.edu/what's-wrong-wikipedia>





# Online encyclopedia: simple Wikipedia

Wikipedia entry too complicated?

- [https://simple.wikipedia.org/wiki/Main\\_Page](https://simple.wikipedia.org/wiki/Main_Page)

“...makes Simple English articles a good way to understand difficult articles from the ordinary English Wikipedia. If someone cannot understand an idea in complex English, they can read the Simple English article.”

[https://simple.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:About#Simple\\_English](https://simple.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:About#Simple_English)

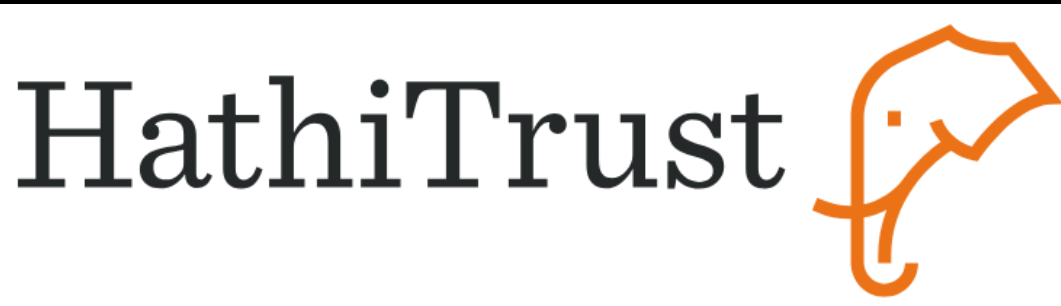


Online collections of free sources  
for in-depth research:

Books, magazines, catalogues, etc.

# Books, catalogues, magazines! Oh, my! Hathi Trust

- <https://www.hathitrust.org/>
- 18 million+ digitized books, magazines, etc.
- “Reading access to the fullest extent allowable by U.S. and international copyright law”
  - Mostly stuff originally published 95+ years ago
- Global in scope
  - Several Canadian institutions (including the University of Calgary and the University of Alberta) are contributors



<https://www.hathitrust.org/about/mission-history/>  
<https://www.hathitrust.org/about/>  
<https://www.hathitrust.org/member-libraries/member-list/>



HathiTrust



# Who would be most interested?

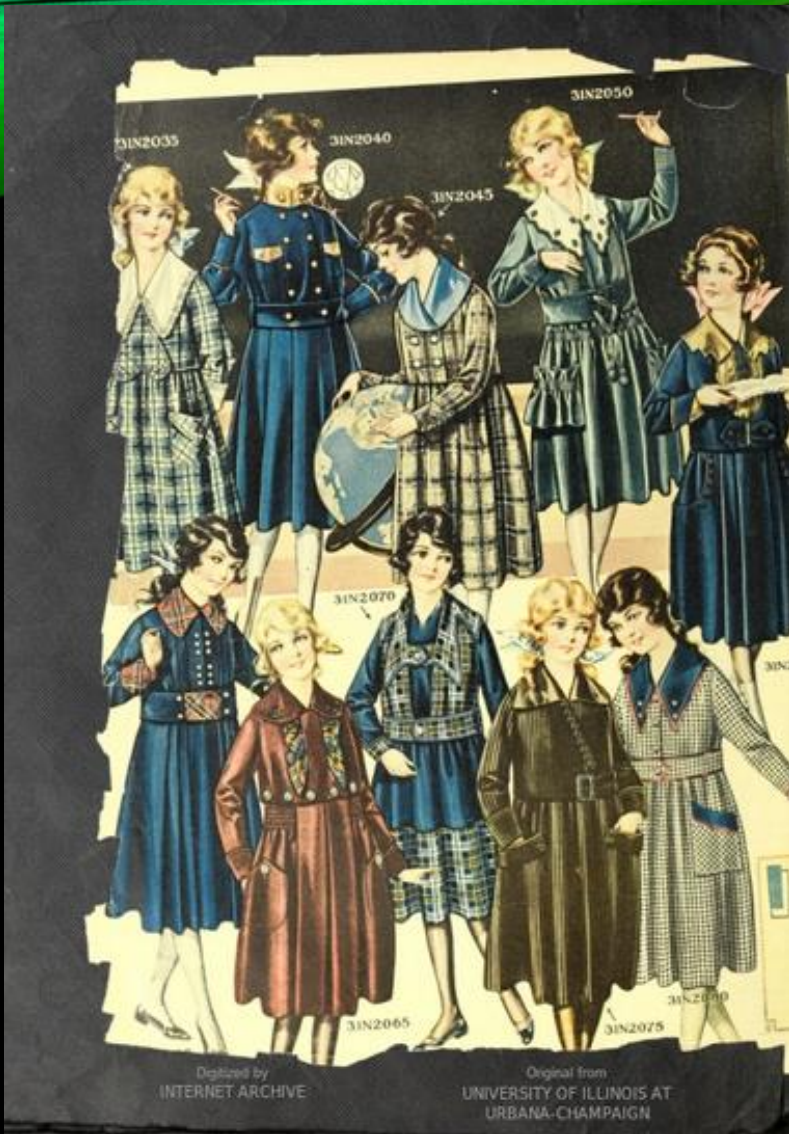
- Historical fiction or fantasy writers
  - Want to write something like *Pride and Prejudice* and *Zombies*? All the novels here are probably public domain – adapt away!
- Science Fiction writers with time-travel plot lines
- Anyone wanting **detailed** descriptions & drawings of plants and animals
- People wanting to get into the heads of individuals with older viewpoints

HathiTrust



# Who would be most interested?

- Historical fiction writers
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- Science Fiction writers with time-travel plot lines
- Anyone wanting **detailed** descriptions & drawings of plants and animals
- People wanting to get into the heads of individuals with older viewpoints
- Tech-savvy ghosts wishing to read things published during their lives




Sears, Roebuck and Company. (1918) [Catalog]. Philadelphia: Sears, Roebuck and Company.  
<https://hdl.handle.net/2027/uiuo.ark:/13960/t75t81s47>



Sowerby, G. B. (1841). *The conchological illustrations*. London: Sowerby  
<https://hdl.handle.net/2027/mdp.39015061993237>

# Searching HathiTrust

<https://www.hathitrust.org/>

HathiTrust  ☰ 🔍

Collection ▾ Full Text & All Fields ▾ SEARCH

i You're searching in Full Text & All Fields for items you can access. ? Search Help 🛒 Advanced Search



# Searching HathiTrust



## Filter your search

Current Filters 


Full Text & All Fields: **military tactics** 

Clear filters

Item Viewability 

All Items **1,870,207**

**Full View 648,555**

Subject 

## Search Results

1 to 100 of 648,555 results

Select all items

New collection... 


Add



**Official Register of Officers and Cadets, 1848-1870**

Published  
1870

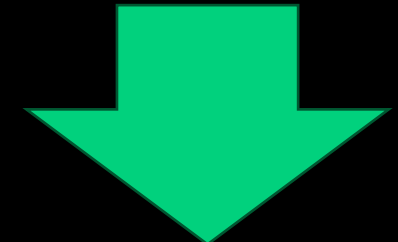
Author  
United States Military Academy.

 Catalog Record

 Full View




**Roster of officers and troops serving at U.S. Military Academy, West Point, N.Y., 1932**




# Searching HathiTrust




Date of Publication	
<a href="#">1910-1919</a>	78,937
<a href="#">1900-1909</a>	67,918
<a href="#">1890-1899</a>	67,537
<a href="#">1920-1929</a>	56,390
<a href="#">1880-1889</a>	47,028
<a href="#">1870-1879</a>	35,334
<a href="#">1970-1979</a>	31,649
<a href="#">1980-1989</a>	31,045
<a href="#">1860-1869</a>	27,863
<a href="#">1990-1999</a>	27,370
<a href="#">1960-1969</a>	25,661
<a href="#">1850-1859</a>	25,094
<a href="#">1950-1959</a>	20,653
<a href="#">1940-1949</a>	17,901
<a href="#">1840-1849</a>	16,807
<a href="#">2000-2009</a>	15,135

 **The background of Napoleonic warfare; the theory of military tactics in eighteenth-century France, no.596**  
**Published**  
1957  
**Author**  
Quimby, Robert S.  
[Catalog Record](#) [Full View](#)

 **Compend of instructions in military tactics, and the manual of percussion arms, with extracts from the U.S. army regulations. Comp. and pub. for the use of the militia, in conformity to a resolve of the legislature, by Ebenezer W. Stone, adj't general of Massachusetts**  
**Published**  
1857  
**Author**

# Searching HathiTrust



HathiTrust 

Search:  Collection:

You're searching in Full Text & All Fields for items you can access. [Search Help](#) [Advanced Search](#)

### Filter your search

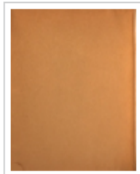
**Current Filters**

- Full Text & All Fields: **military tactics**
- Date of Publication: 1810-1819
- Place of Publication: United Kingdom

### Search Results

1 to 100 of 3,133 results

Select all items

-  **The tactics of Aelian, comprising the military system of the Grecians; illustrated with notes, explanatory plates, &c. &c. &c. With a preliminary discourse, by Henry Augustus Viscount Dillon**  
Published 1814



# Searching HathiTrust




The elements of the science of war; containing the modern, established, and approved principles of the theory and practice of the military sciences ... Illustrated by seventy-five plates, on artillery, fortification, &c. and remarkable battles fought since the year 1675, for the use of military schools and self-instruction ... By William Müller, v. 2


Published

1811

Author

Müller, Wilhelm, engineer.

 [Catalog Record](#)

 [Full View](#)







# Searching HathiTrust



## Description

### Tools

 [Cite this](#)

 [Export citation file](#)

### Main Author

[Müller, Wilhelm, engineer.](#)

### Language(s)

English

### Published

London, Longman, Hurst, Rees, Orme and co. [etc.] 1811.

### Subjects

[Military art and science.](#)

### Physical Description

3 v. fold. fronts., fold. plates, fold. maps. 22 cm.

### Locate a Print Version

[Find in a library](#)

# Other Open sources for books, catalogues, & magazines

- Project Gutenberg <https://www.gutenberg.org/>
  - ~70,000 books
  - Focused on older books that are no longer under copyright (generally published over 95 years ago)
  - Heavy focus on novels & short stories
- Directory of Open Access Books (<https://www.doabooks.org/>) and Online Library of Open Access Books (<https://www.oapen.org/>)
  - Two services offered by the same organization – slightly different search results
  - Academic, peer reviewed.
  - Global scope.
  - Primarily focused on books published after ~1950



Online collections of free sources  
for educational content:

*Modern* textbooks, lecture slides, etc.



# Textbooks, lectures, etc.: Open Educational Resources Commons

- <https://oercommons.org/>
- Over 50,000 resources
- Mostly published in the last 20 years
- Many resources associated with taxpayer funded places (eg: public school boards, publicly-funded post-secondary education)
- Huge range in technical levels (K → post-graduate)





# Who would be most interested?

- Most fiction genres, edutainment content creators
- People who learn better from resources designed for teaching/learning
- Parents looking for help & alternate learning resources for kids struggling to learn something



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- Most fiction genres, edutainment content creators
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- Parents looking for help & alternate learning resources for kids struggling to learn something
- Aspiring supervillains kicked out of post-secondary education for...ethically dubious conduct

# Searching



**Explore. Create. Collaborate.**

*OER Commons is a public digital library of open educational resources. Explore, create, and collaborate with educators around the world to improve curriculum.*

What are you looking for?  Subject  Education Level  Standard

[Fine tune your search with our advanced search.](#)

Support

<https://oercommons.org/>



# Searching



The screenshot shows the OER Commons website interface. At the top right, there is a link to "Donate to ISKME". The main navigation bar includes "Hubs", "Groups", and "Learn More" dropdown menus, and a green "Add OER" button. On the left, there is a search icon, a notification bell, and a "Sign In/Register" link. A large central banner features the text "Explore Collaborate." and "OER Commons is a place where educators collaborate to create and share educational resources. Explore, create, and share your world to improve curriculum." A vertical "Support" button is on the right side of the banner. Below the banner is a search bar with the placeholder text "What are you looking for?". To the right of the search bar are three dropdown menus for "Subject", "Education Level", and "Standard", followed by a green "Search" button. A link for "Fine tune your search with our advanced search." is located below the search bar. A subject dropdown menu is open, listing the following categories: Applied Science, Arts and Humanities, Business and Communication, Career and Technical Education, Education, English Language Arts, History, Law, Life Science, Mathematics, Physical Science, and Social Science.



# Searching



Donate to ISKME

OER COMMONS OPEN EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES

Discover ▾ Hubs ▾ Groups ▾ Learn More ▾ Add OER

Sign In/Register

Education Level

- Preschool
- Lower Primary
- Upper Primary
- Middle School
- High School
- Community College / Lower Division
- College / Upper Division
- Graduate / Professional
- Career / Technical
- Adult Education


What are you looking for? Subject Education Level Standard Search



Fine tune your search with our [advanced search](#).

Support

# Searching



 [Discover](#) [Hubs](#) [Groups](#) [Learn More](#) [Add OER](#)

  [Sign In/Register](#)

## Advanced Search

### Search Resources

[Search](#) [Support](#)

### Additional Search Criteria

Education Standards:

Search by Language:

Subject Area  Rubric Evaluated



# Searching



Mathematics

Physical Science

Social Science

▼  **Educational Use**

- Curriculum/Instruction
- Assessment
- Professional Development
- Informal Education
- Other

▼  **Material Type** [what's this?](#)

**Activities & Assignments**

- Activity/Lab
- Assessment
- Homework/Assignment

>  **Upper Primary**

>  **Middle School**

▼  **High School**

- Grade 9
- Grade 10
- Grade 11
- Grade 12
- Community College / Lower Division
- College / Upper Division
- Graduate / Professional
- Career / Technical
- Adult Education

>  **Media Format**

# Searching



**Search Resources**

volcano  [Advanced Search](#)

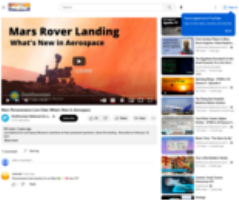
**Filter By**

- Education Standards
- Subject Area
- Education Level
  - Community College / Lower Division
  - High School
  - Middle School
  - Adult Education
  - Career / Technical
  - College / Upper Division
  - Graduate / Professional


**12 Results**

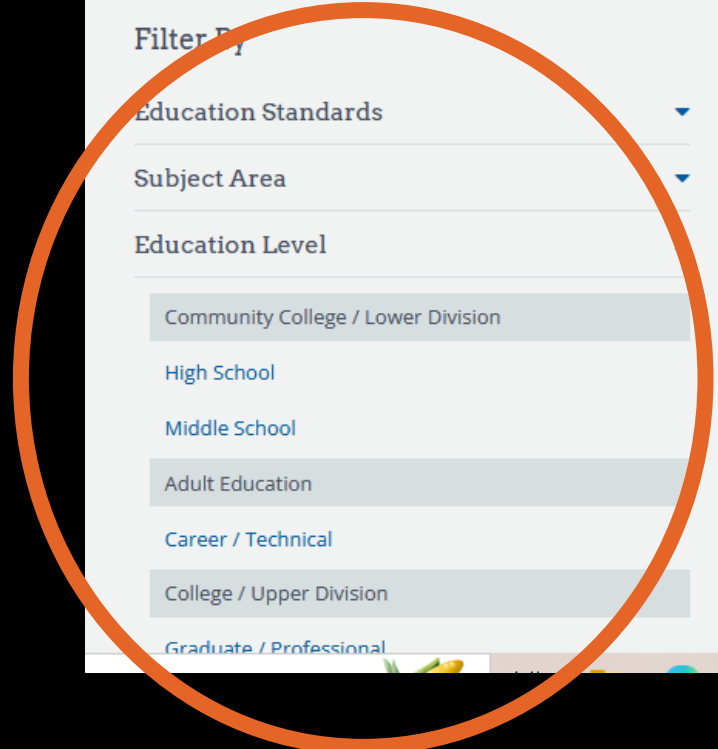
Per page 20 Sort By Relevance View

Selected filters:  Community College / Lower Division  College / Upper Division  Adult Education  Grade 12



**What's New in Aerospace: Mars Perseverance Live Chat**  
Rating ★★★★★  
*Join National Air and Space Museum scientists as they answered questions about ...*  
More  
Subject: Applied Science, Computer Science, Engineering, Physical Science  
Material Type: Lecture  
Provider: National Air and Space Museum  
Author: National Air and Space Museum

Conditional Remix & Share Permitted  






# Searching



The screenshot shows the OER Commons interface for a resource titled "Volcanic Features". At the top, there is a navigation bar with "Discover", "Hubs", "Groups", "Learn More", and "Add OER" buttons, along with search and user icons. Below the navigation bar, a "Return to Search Results" link is visible. The resource card includes a thumbnail image of volcanic features, a star rating of five stars, and a "View Resource" button. Below the card, there are icons for views (23), downloads (6), and comments (0). The main content area is divided into three sections: "Description", "Standards", and "Evaluations".

**Description**

Overview: This interactive resource adapted from the National Park Service illustrates the variety of landforms and features created by volcanoes. Featured are calderas, craters, fumaroles and other geothermal features, igneous rocks, lava flows, lava tubes, and maars.

Subject: Education, Astronomy, Chemistry, Geology, Geoscience, Physical Geography, Physics, Space Science

Level: Middle School, High School, Community College / Lower Division, Graduate / Professional, Career / Technical

Grades: Grade 6, Grade 7, Grade 8, Grade 9, Grade 10, Grade 11, Grade 12

Material Type: Activity/Lab, Diagram/Illustration, Interactive

Author: National Science Foundation, WGBH Educational Foundation

Provider: PBS LearningMedia

Provider Set: PBS Learning Media: Multimedia Resources for the Classroom and Professional Development

Date Added: 12/17/2005

License: Educational Use Permitted

Language: English

Media Format: Text/HTML, Video

**Standards**

AAAS.4C.M4 ⓘ  
AAAS 2008 Standards  
Grades 6-8

Learning Domain: The Physical Setting

Standard: Sedimentary rock buried deep enough may be re-formed by pressure and heat, perhaps melting and recrystallizing into different kinds of rock. These re-formed rock layers may be forced up again to become land surface and even mountains. Subsequently, this new rock too will erode. Rock bears evidence of the minerals, temperatures, and forces that created it.

Degree of Alignment: Not Rated (0 users)

**Evaluations**

No evaluations yet

**Tags (25)**

- And Processes
- Astronomy
- Chemistry
- Earth Science
- Earth System
- Earth System Science
- Education
- Education (General)
- Features
- Geography
- Geology
- Geoscience
- Internal Earth Processes
- Login Required
- National K-12 Subject
- NSDL
- Physical Geography
- Physical Sciences
- Physics
- Science
- Social Sciences
- Space Science
- Structure
- The Rock Cycle
- Volcanic

Log in to add tags to this item.

# Searching



- Note: it does not search the entire full text of the resource – the search tool seems to only look through the same stuff you see in the item record. Search related terms!

# Textbooks, lectures, etc.

## Other Open Education databases

### Canadian

- Open Education Alberta <https://pressbooks.openeducationalberta.ca/catalog/>
- BC Open Campus <https://collection.bccampus.ca/search/>
- eCampus Ontario <https://openlibrary.ecampusontario.ca/>

### International

- Merlot <https://www.merlot.org/merlot/index.htm>

### American (Many have Canadian and other content)

- Libre Texts <https://commons.libretexts.org/catalog>
- Open Textbook Library <https://open.umn.edu/opentextbooks>
- Open Stax <https://openstax.org/subjects>



Confused  
about what  
you found?





Recruiting your army  
of high-quality minions &  
henchpersons for  
rapid global domination!




Image by [Ctker-Free-Vector-Images](#) from [Pixabay](#)

# Recruiting your army of experts



- Talk to people around you!
- Join a combat-sport club (fencing, karate, etc.)
- Attend Alumni events! Convince you partner to take you to their alumni events!

Image by [Gerd Altmann](#) from [Pixabay](#)



Other (almost) free resources

# Usually free if you have a library card

## Interlibrary Loans (ILL)

- Request physical items from other libraries be shipped to your library.
- Works for “known items” – it exists, but your library doesn’t have it.
  - Ask your librarian to help you track it down
- Usually successful, however, the library you request from may refuse to send the item.



Image by [LillyCantabile](#) from [Pixabay](#)



# Do you have alumni access to \$\$\$\$ resources?

- Many post-secondary libraries now give some access to online resources to Alumni! Check it out!

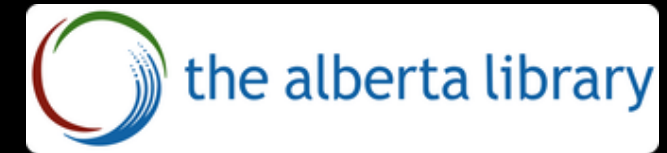
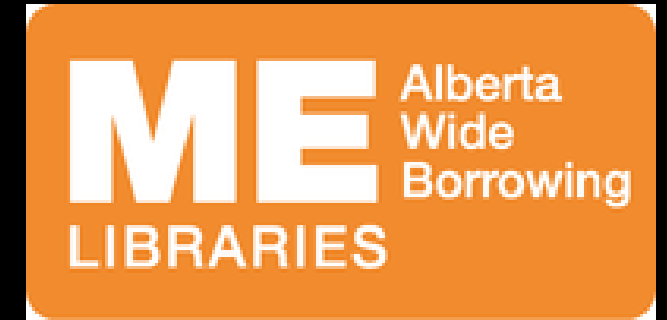


Image by [Mohamed Hassan](#) from [Pixabay](#)

# Alberta library resources

Free to all Albertans with a library card!

- Borrow from Alberta Public Libraries  
<https://melibraries.ca/help.php>
- Borrow from Alberta post-secondary libraries  
<https://www.thealbertalibrary.ca/tal-card.html>



Alberta Legal Information sources: mostly free to Albertans

- <https://lawlibrary.ab.ca/services/services-to-the-public/>  
Note: there are similar services in other Provinces & Countries





# Writing soundtracks

## National Jukebox

- <https://www.loc.gov/collections/national-jukebox/about-this-collection/>
- Public Domain Recordings from the US (mostly pre-1925)

## [Radiooooo.com](http://Radiooooo.com)

- “Musical Time Machine”
- Search by decade and country
- I don’t know the copyright status of the music on this page! Listen, but proceed with caution if you are a podcaster

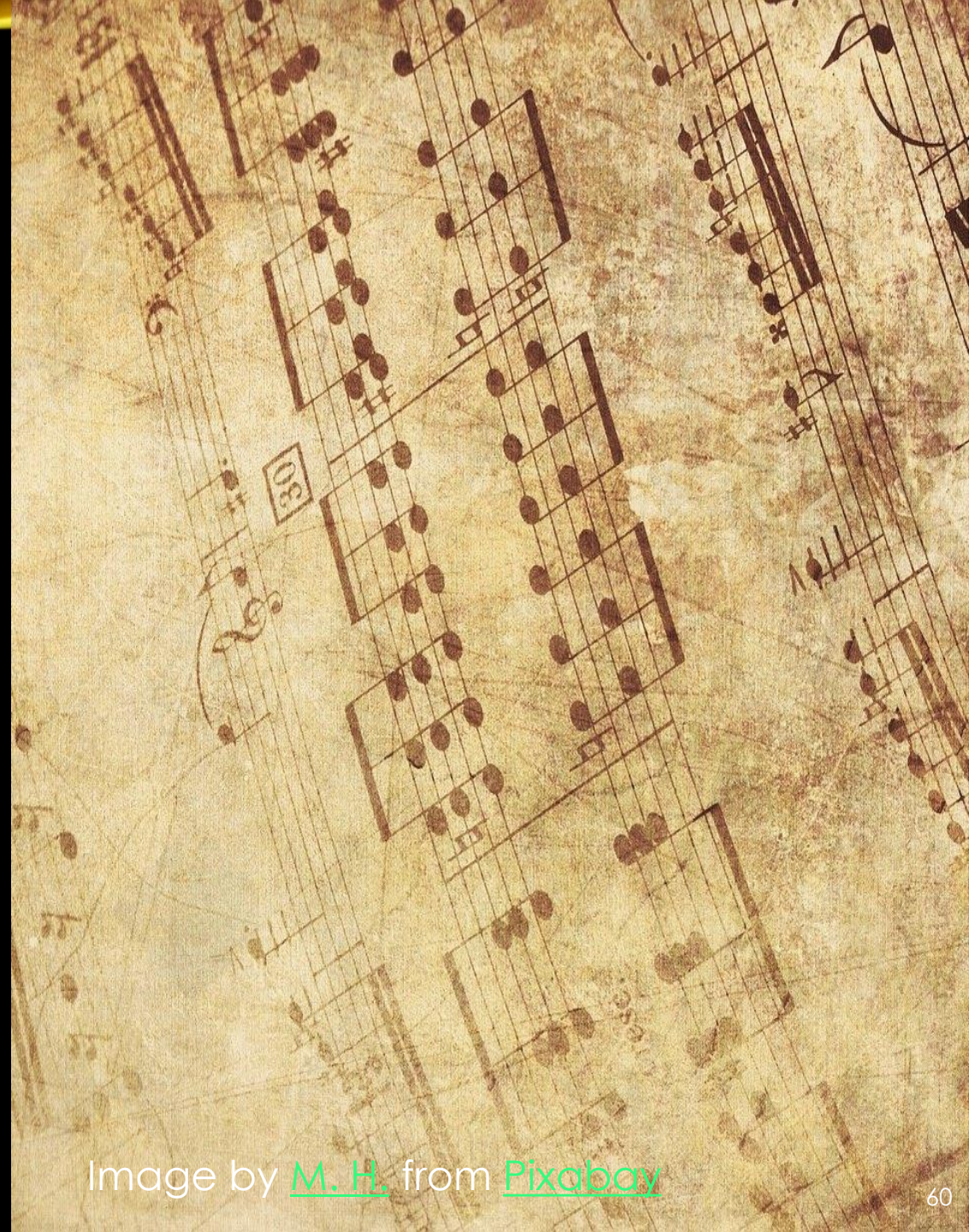


Image by [M. H.](#) from [Pixabay](#)



# QUESTIONS?

Download these slides:

<https://theunrestrictedlibrarian.com/when-words-collide-2024/>

Contact Cheryl:

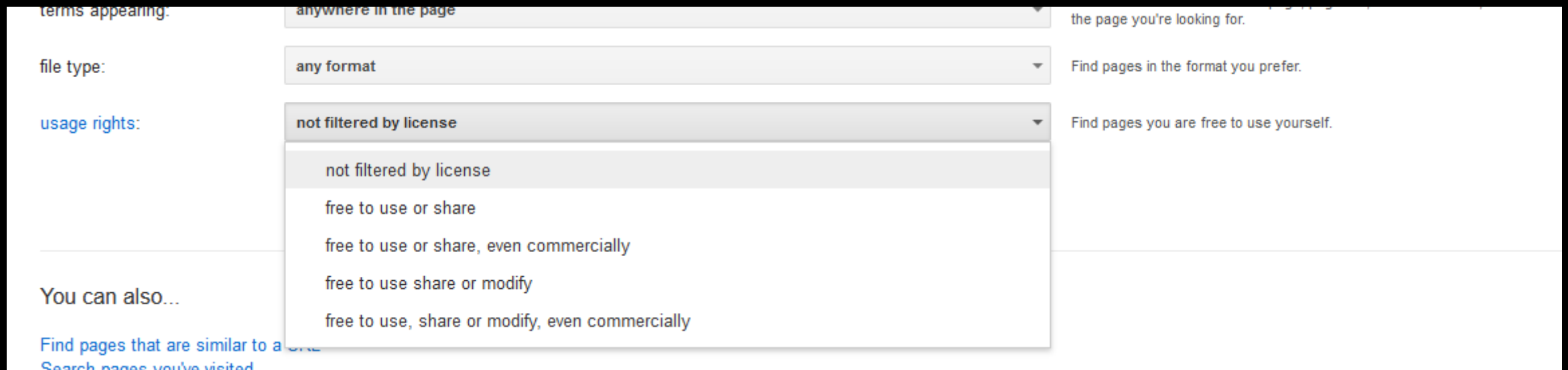
<https://theunrestrictedlibrarian.com/contact/>





# When the library is closed, and all else fails: Google it!

- Google advanced search: select “free to use or share” usage rights
- [https://www.google.ca/advanced\\_search](https://www.google.ca/advanced_search)



The image shows a screenshot of the Google Advanced Search interface. On the left side, there are several filter categories: 'terms appearing:', 'file type:', 'usage rights:', and 'You can also...'. The 'usage rights:' filter is currently selected, and its dropdown menu is open, showing five options: 'not filtered by license', 'free to use or share', 'free to use or share, even commercially', 'free to use share or modify', and 'free to use, share or modify, even commercially'. To the right of the filters, there are three explanatory text blocks: 'the page you're looking for.', 'Find pages in the format you prefer.', and 'Find pages you are free to use yourself.'

# ACADEMIC SOURCES

## DOAJ

- Directory of Open Access Journals <https://doaj.org/>
- Over 20,000 peer-reviewed journal titles, over 10,000,000 articles
- Global coverage, broad range of subjects
- Academic articles
- Roughly 75% of articles are less than 25 years old



# ACADEMIC SOURCES: OPEN DISSERTATIONS



<https://opendissertations.org/>



Millions of masters and doctoral theses, across dozens of subject areas, languages, etc.



VERY broad subject areas. If you can imagine a person getting a graduate degree in it, there is likely at least one thesis on the topic



Can be much, much more technical than you want or need

# OPEN DISSERTATIONS: HOW TO DOWNLOAD



◀ Result List Refine Search ◀ 8 of 1,238 ▶

## “Dead, to begin with”: The Role of **Ghosts** in Charles Dickens’s A Christmas Carol

**Authors:** [MacNeil, Catherine](#)

**Committee Members:** [Brown, Collier](#); [Lynch, Deidre](#)

**Year:** 2022

**Document Type:** Thesis or Dissertation

**Subjects:** [A Christmas Carol](#)  
[Charles Dickens](#)  
[Christianity](#)  
[Ghosts](#)  
[Gothic](#)  
[Spiritualism](#)  
[English literature](#)  
[Literature](#)  
[Spirituality](#)

**Language:** English

**Summary:** An exploration of the role of the **ghosts** in Charles Dickens’s “A Christmas Carol”, specifically considering the influence of religion, the eighteenth century Gothic tradition, and the nineteenth century **ghost** story on Dickens’s choices when crafting the novel. This work seeks to examine how and why the **ghosts** determine the course of Scrooge’s future. Essentially – why **ghosts**?

**University:** Harvard University

**URL:** <https://nrs.harvard.edu/URN-3:HUL.INSTREPOS:37371547>

**Accession Number:** ddu.oai.dash.harvard.edu.1/37371547

Tools

- Google Drive
- OneDrive
- Add to folder
- Print
- Save
- Cite
- Export
- Create Note
- Personalize





# Types of Free Information

# Most frequently encountered types of free information

- Open Access (Open Knowledge, Open Education...variety of names
  - Has no paywalls or other financial barriers
  - Has no or limited legal barriers to how you can use it
  - Has no technical barriers to access for people with basic internet access
  - <https://theunrestrictedlibrarian.com/why-is-open-access-important/>
- Public Domain
  - Creator is too dead to care if you use it
  - Information was *never* under copyright (some government publications, some creative commons licenses)

# Most frequently encountered types of free information

- Paid for in other ways
  - YouTube ads pay for content
  - Wikipedia has requests for donations
  - Tax dollars funding libraries
- Unethically obtained information
  - Please consult with a librarian for alternate, legal alternatives before choosing crime.

# Medical Information

- <https://www.mayoclinic.org/diseases-conditions>
- <https://www.nih.gov/health-information>
- <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/healthy-living/your-health/alphabetical-list.html>
- <https://www.webmd.com/>
- <https://www.drugs.com/> and <https://www.webmd.com/drugs/2/index>
  - US centric, drugs may have different names