

Exercise #1

Comparing the Top 10 Results in the Top Four Engines

In this exercise you will observe both similarities and differences in results from the same searches in the major search engines. You will also learn to use Dogpile, a good, simple tool for comparing the top 10 results from popular search engines.

Instructions:

1. Go to **Dogpile** (www.dogpile.com) and do the two searches below.
2. In the Dogpile search results, click on the icons for these four search engines



The top 10 results will be displayed in separate windows.

The results unique to each search engine will be *highlighted in yellow*.

- A. You are researching the diet restrictions of someone who has recovered from an acute pancreatitis attack and wonders what he can eat. Try to filter out the cat and dog pancreatitis websites.

Use search terms: *diet "acute pancreatitis" -cat -dog -canine -feline*

How many unique to Google? _____

How many unique to Yahoo? _____

How many unique to MSN? _____

How many unique to Ask.com? _____

- B. You want general information on the controversy surrounding the theories of intelligent design, creationism, and evolution. What are the prevailing issues and points of view?

Use search terms: *"intelligent design" creationism evolution*

How many unique to Google? _____

How many unique to Yahoo? _____

How many unique to MSN? _____

How many unique to Ask.com? _____

What generalizations can you draw from these comparison searches?