

Exercise #6

On the Reference Desk

This exercise simulates the real world of the reference desk. You will trade off being the patron and the librarian.

Each pair will get two questions (don't show each other the index cards!).

Flip a coin to decide who gets to be the librarian (heads gets to be the librarian first).

Once you have determined who will be the librarian and who will be the patron, the librarian takes his or her place at a computer.

The patron then asks the question on the index card and the librarian must search for the best answer.

When the question is successfully answered, you will trade roles, and start the process over.

When you have answered the questions, discuss the techniques you used to answer the questions. What bookmarks/websites were most useful? What might you have done differently to improve your answer?