

Exercise #2

Library Catalog Searching vs. Full-Text Searching

In this exercise you will discover the power of full-text searching of books by conducting a catalog search and then searching for the same term in the full-text of an e-book collection.

Instructions: Find books that discuss serotonin syndrome.

A. First try a catalog search using the Peninsula Library System (PLS) catalog

1. Go to catalog.plsinfo.org/
2. Search for “serotonin syndrome.” (Note that a keyword search searches titles, content notes, and subjects.)
3. Did you find any books?

B. Then try using Netlibrary’s full-text searching

1. Click on **Articles & Databases**.
2. Under the **eBooks** heading, click on **netLibrary**.
3. Enter your PLS library card number and click **Submit Query**.
4. Search for the same phrase.
5. How many books did you find?

C. Do the most relevant titles from your Netlibrary search have records in the PLS catalog?

BONUS

D. Try the same search using Google Book Search

1. Go to books.google.com/
2. Search for the same phrase.
3. How many books can you find?
4. Any of the same titles?
5. Is this more useful? Less useful? Why?