



DO'S



DON'TS

Internet Research: Do's & Don'ts



DON'T... just copy straight from the search results page. You can use this information, but you must:

1. Paraphrase, summarise or quote
2. Reference correctly

Google search results for "what do otters eat". The search bar shows the query and the results page displays "About 7,300,000 results (0.79 seconds)". The first result is from SeaWorld Parks: "All About Otters - Diet & Eating Habits | SeaWorld Parks ...".

Callout boxes:

- Left box:** "It's fine to use this **BUT...**
1. Paraphrase, summarise or quote
2. Reference the source correctly" (with an arrow pointing to the search result text)
- Right box:** "This link will take you to the source" (with an arrow pointing to the URL)



DO... click on the link below the information to find the source



DO... look for the **author** and **date published**. For many websites the author will be a company or organisation, not a person.

SEAWORLD PARKS & ENTERTAINMENT.
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Navigation menu: Home, Animal Information, Animal InfoBooks, Otters, Diet & Eating Habits

Footer links: Conservation, Notice of Collection, Careers, Privacy Policy, Do Not Sell My Info, Terms & Conditions, Content License

HINT: To find the date and author of a webpage, scroll to the bottom of the page



DO... evaluate your sources. Are they reliable? Here's some questions you could ask to check.



AUTHOR'S CREDENTIALS

Is there an author listed for the source? If so, who are they, and what **credentials** do they have? Are they an **expert** in the field, or employed by a reputable organization?

BEST-BEFORE DATE

Is there a date listed for the source? Consider the topic of your source, and whether or not information pertaining to this source can "**expire**" - is the information **time-sensitive**?

CONNECTION TO OTHER SOURCES

Does your source **reference** other reputable publications as the source of their information? When you **fact-check** the source, do you find other sources that support this information?

DESIGN AND LAYOUT

Does the design and layout of the source look professional? Are there advertisements? Are there inconsistencies with the formatting? Are there typing errors, broken webpage links or other mistakes?

EXPECTED OUTCOME

What does this source hope to achieve from sharing this information?
Hint: If it involves profit or attention, then it's likely untrustworthy.



DON'T... use vague or general search words. There's lots of information on the internet, so be specific. Keep trying different combinations of words until you find what you need.

William Shakespeare Biography - Shakespeare Birthplace Trust
William **Shakespeare** was a renowned English poet, playwright, and actor born in 1564 in Stratford-upon-Avon. His birthday is most commonly celebrated on 23 ...
7 July 2020 · Uploaded by Shakespeare Birthplace Trust
Shakespeare's Career · When Was Shakespeare Born? · Hamnet Shakespeare

<https://www.britannica.com> > ... > Poetry > Poets L-Z ▾
William Shakespeare | Plays, Poems, Biography, Quotes ...
7 June 2021 — William **Shakespeare** was an English dramatist, poet, and actor considered by many to be the greatest dramatist of all time.
Notable Family Members: spouse Anne Hat... **Baptized:** April 26, 1564 Stratford-upon-Av...
Died: April 23, 1616 Stratford-upon-Avon Engl...

<https://www.biography.com> > writer > william-shakespe... ▾
William Shakespeare - Quotes, Plays & Wife - Biography
10 Dec 2020 — Who Was William **Shakespeare**? ... William **Shakespeare** was an English poet, playwright and actor of the Renaissance era. He was an important member ...
Education: King Edward VI School
Place of Burial: Holy Trinity Church
Parents: John Shakespeare, Mary Arden

<https://www.poetryfoundation.org> > Poets ▾
William Shakespeare | Poetry Fou
While William **Shakespeare's** reputation is based as a poet. With the partial exception of the Son...
Date of death: April 23, 1616

<http://shakespeare.mit.edu> ▾
The Complete Works of William
Welcome to the Web's first edition of the Co... offered **Shakespeare's** plays and poetry to

This is the results of a Google search for 'Shakespeare'. Lots of this information is not really relevant to your question.

<https://www.daytranslations.com> > blog > shakespeare-i... ▾
William Shakespeare: His Influence in the English Language
15 Jan 2014 — William **Shakespeare** not only **influenced** theater during his time, he also **influenced** the **English language** with words you may not know were ...

<https://www.grammarly.com> > blog > how-the-english-l... ▾
How the English Language Is Shakespeare's Language ...
16 Dec 2020 — Finally, **Shakespeare** had a profound **impact** on poetry and literature that has lasted centuries. He perfected blank verse, which became a standard ...

<https://www.bbc.com> > culture > article > 20140527-sa... ▾
How Shakespeare influences the way we speak now - BBC ...
27 May 2014 — In fact, during his 52 years on earth, he enriched the **English language** in ways so profound it's almost impossible to fully gauge his **impact** ...

<https://www.kumon.co.uk> > blog > a-feast-of-languages... ▾
How Shakespeare shaped the English Language - Kumon UK
23 Apr 2021 — With 37 plays and 154 sonnets under his belt, it's no wonder **Shakespeare** has had such an **influence** on the **English language**.

<https://www.english.com> > English ▾
Shakespeare's enduring influence on the English language ...
24 Apr 2017 — **Shakespeare** is considered by many to have been our nation's greatest wordsmith, and his **influence** on the **English language** is still being ...

<https://ukdiss.com> > examples > shakespeare-english-lan... ▾
Influence of Shakespeare on the English Language
9 Dec 2019 — 1.2 **Historical** background of the **English language**. 1.3 Introduction of **Shakespeare's influence**. 2 Who was William **Shakespeare**?

This is the results of a Google search for 'Shakespeare influence English language history'. This information is much more useful and relevant.



DON'T... settle for the first, second and third Google result on the list.



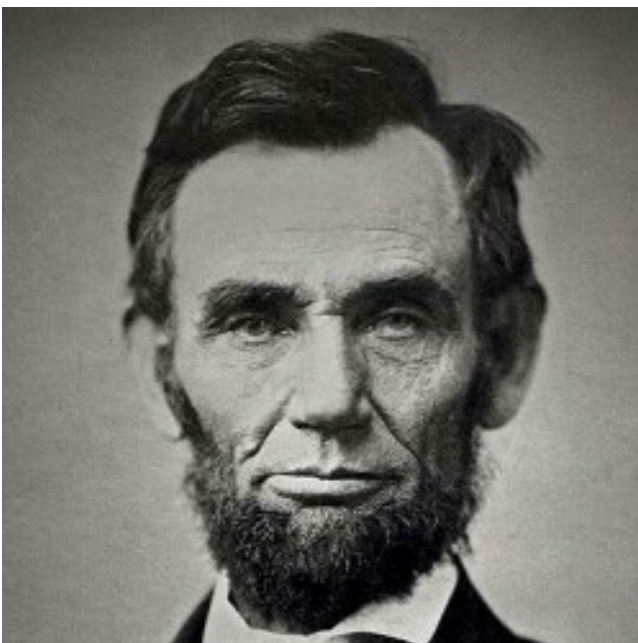
DO... Read LOTS of different sources. Compare them – do they all say the same thing? Which one is the most trustworthy?

trustworthy?



DO... look at the domain – **.com**, **.org**, **.gov**, and **.edu**. Some are more likely to be reliable than others. Some domains,

including **.com** and **.org**, are classed as ‘open’, meaning anyone can register on them, and are usually used for commercial reasons. Other domains are classed as ‘closed’, such as **.gov** and **.edu**, and registrants must meet certain requirements to register these. In the case of **.edu** for example, registration is limited to accredited post-secondary institutions. Depending on the purpose of your search, the domain you choose to search may have implications for the reliability and usefulness of the results returned.



Don't believe everything
you read on the internet

– Abraham Lincoln