

Information Literacy Questionnaire

Comparative Report

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Introduction

The Information Literacy Questionnaire was administered in February 2005 and May 2005 as paper based surveys. The purpose of this report is to summarize the results of the current survey as well as giving comparative data from the previous survey.

The Sample

The number of participants and responses of the two surveys are shown in Table 1.

Table 1: Response Rate

	No. Qualified to Participate	No. of Responses	% Response
Feb 2005 (Pre)	103	64	62.1
May 2005 (Post)	128	90	70.3

Participant Details

Question 1 Age Group

The age group participants completing the survey is shown in Table 2.

Table 2: Age distribution

Age	Pre		Post			
	All		All		Completed & Returned - Pre/Post	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
16-18	46	71.9	43	47.8	22	61.1
19-21	10	15.6	31	34.4	10	27.8
22-30	7	10.9	10	11.1	2	5.6
31-40	-	-	5	5.6	2	5.6
>40	1	1.6	1	1.1	-	-
<i>Total</i>	64	100	90	100.0	36	100.0

Question 2 Gender

Table 3 shows the breakdown in terms of gender.

Table 3: Gender Breakdown

Gender	Pre		Post			
	All		All		Completed & Returned - Pre/Post	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Female	53	82.8	67	74.4	27	75.0
Male	11	17.2	23	25.6	9	25.0
<i>Total</i>	64	100	90	100.0	36	100.0

Question 3 Highest Level of Education Completed

Table 4 shows the breakdown with respect to educational levels

Table 4: Breakdown of educational levels

Qualification	Pre		Post			
	All		All		Completed & Returned - Pre/Post	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Secondary School	54	84.4	72	81.8	32	91.4
University	10	15.6	11	12.5	2	5.7
Other (please specify)	-	-	5	5.7	1	2.9
<i>Total</i>	64	100	88	100.0	35	100.0

Other: Advanced Diploma
 Celts IV
 Cert. IV in Health (nursing)
 PhD
 TAFE

Question 4 Stream of the Diploma of Health Sciences

Stream of the Diploma of Health Sciences enrolled in:

Table 5: Breakdown of enrolment

Qualification	Pre		Post			
	All		All		Completed & Returned - Pre/Post	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Physiotherapy	47	73.4	54	62.1	26	74.3
Occupational therapy	8	12.5	5	5.7	1	2.9
Health sciences / social work	9	14.1	7	8.0	2	5.7
Other (please specify)	-	-	19	21.8	6	17.1
Don't Know	-	-	2	2.3	-	-
<i>Total</i>	64	100	87	100.0	35	100.0

Other: Paramedic

Question 5

At school

Table 6: Breakdown of responses

Response option	Pre		Post			
	All		All		Completed & Returned - Pre/Post	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
a I had classes on finding and using information	48	67.2	83	92.2	34	94.4
b I did not have classes on finding and using information	18	28.1	6	6.7	2	5.6
c Don't Know	3	4.7	1	1.1	-	-
<i>Total</i>	64	100.0	90	100.0	36	100.0

Question 6

If you want to find journal articles about “*The popularity of video games*”, you will search in:

Table 7: Breakdown of responses

Response option	Pre		Post			
	All		All		Completed & Returned - Pre/Post	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
a The library catalogue	10	15.9	3	3.4	1	2.9
b A database	7	11.1	61	70.1	27	77.1
c Google	29	46.0	15	17.2	7	20.0
c The journals in the library	10	15.9	4	4.6	-	-
d Other (please specify)	1	1.6	3	3.4	-	-
e Don't Know	6	9.5	1	1.1	-	-
Total	63	100.0	87	100.0	35	100.0

Other: 1. Ask the Librarian.

2. <http://www.scholar.google.com>

3. I would do both - sorry I thought the databases on the library website hold all the journals.

Question 7

You have used the words “*business letters*” in a library catalogue search. No document is found by the search. What do you conclude?

Table 8: Breakdown of responses

Response option	Pre		Post			
	All		All		Completed & Returned - Pre/Post	
	N	Percent	N	Percent	N	Percent
a The library does not have any documents on this topic	10	15.6	7	8.0	1	2.8
b You have not used the right words	48	75.0	72	82.8	32	88.9
c All documents on this topic are already on loan	-	-	-	-	-	-
d The system is down	-	-	-	-	-	-
e Other (please specify)	4	6.3	4	4.6	1	2.8
f Don't Know	2	3.1	4	4.6	2	5.6
Total	64	100.0	87	100.0	36	100.0

Other: 1. Business letters' are not books.
 2. More likely to be found on databases. Advanced search breaking the phrase up.

Question 8

To become familiar with a subject about which you know very little, first you consult:

Table 9: Breakdown of responses

Response option	Pre		Post			
	All		All		Completed & Returned - Pre/Post	
	N	Percent	N	Percent	N	Percent
a A journal	1	1.6	2	2.4	1	2.8
b An encyclopedia	25	40.3	39	45.9	16	44.4
c A database	8	12.9	7	8.2	3	8.3
c A book	17	27.5	32	37.6	14	38.9
d Other (please specify)	8	12.9	3	3.5	-	-
e Don't Know	3	4.8	2	2.4	2	5.6
Total	62	100.0	85	100.0	36	100.0

Other: 1. Website/internet.
 2. Google
 3. Net

Question 9

You must use a psychology database to find information on “*The effect of family relations on the academic results of primary school students*”. Which combination of words will you use?

Table 10: Breakdown of responses

Response option	Pre		Post			
	All		All		Completed & Returned - Pre/Post	
	N	Percent	N	Percent	N	Percent
a Family relations, academic results, primary school	40	63.5	43	48.3	18	50.0
b Family relations, academic results	2	3.2	6	6.7	2	5.6
c Effect, family relations, academic results	1	1.6	7	7.9	3	8.3
c Effect, family relations, academic results, primary school	20	31.7	30	33.7	13	36.1
d Other (please specify)	-	-	1	1.1	-	-
e Don't Know	-	-	2	2.2	-	-
Total	63	100.0	89	100.0	36	100.0

Question 10

Which one of the following citations refers to a journal article?

Table 11: Breakdown of responses

Response option	Pre		Post			
	All		All		Completed & Returned - Pre/Post	
	N	Percent	N	Percent	N	Percent
a Miller, A. W (1997)	4	6.6	3	3.4	-	-
b Anderson, K.H. (1999)	19	31.1	56	63.6	26	74.3
c Hartley, J.T. & D.A. Walsh (2000)	8	13.1	9	10.2	4	11.4
c Maccoby, E.E. & J. Martin (1983)	9	14.8	16	18.2	1	2.9
d Don't Know	21	34.4	4	4.5	4	11.4
Total	61	100.0	88	100.0	35	100.0

Question 11

Using a search engine such as Google or Yahoo, you would not find:

Table 12: Breakdown of responses

Response option	Pre		Post			
	All		All		Completed & Returned - Pre/Post	
	N	Percent	N	Percent	N	Percent
a The books available in the library	56	88.9	78	91.8	33	94.3
b Biography information about famous people	-	-	1	1.2	-	-
c Merchandise catalogues	-	-	-	-	-	-
c Information about companies	-	-	1	1.2	-	-
d Other (please specify)	1	1.6	2	2.4	2	5.7
e Don't Know	6	9.5	3	3.5	-	-
Total	63	100.0	85	100.0	35	100.0

Other: 1. Lots of different things
2. Random stuff, find what you're looking for but usually in different styles.

Question 12

A friend told you that you should read an article published in the November 2001 issue of Internet Guide, “The Microsoft Xbox Console”, by Mark Kenney. To check the availability of this article at the library, you search in the catalogue under:

Table 13: Breakdown of responses

Response option	Pre		Post			
	All		All		Completed & Returned - Pre/Post	
	N	Percent	N	Percent	N	Percent
a Internet Guide	10	15.9	4	4.5	3	8.3
b Mark Kenney	13	20.6	12	13.5	5	13.9
c The Microsoft Xbox Console	6	9.5	11	12.4	5	13.9
c Answers (a), (b), and (c) are correct	28	44.5	58	65.2	22	61.1
d Other (please specify)	-	-	-	-	-	-
e Don't Know	6	9.5	4	4.5	1	2.8
Total	63	100.0	89	100.0	36	100.0

Other: Catalogue.

Question 13

Using a search engine such Google to search for documents on “*The depletion of the ozone layer and the impact of health*”, you use the words:

Table 14: Breakdown of responses

Response option	Pre		Post			
	All		All		Completed & Returned - Pre/Post	
	N	Percent	N	Percent	N	Percent
a Impact, depletion, ozone layer, health	18	29.0	45	50.6	20	55.6
b Ozone layer, health	41	66.2	36	40.4	14	38.9
c Ozone layer	1	1.6	3	3.4	1	2.8
c Skin cancer, ozone layer	1	1.6	3	3.4	-	-
d Other (please specify)	1	1.6	-	-	-	-
e Don't Know	-	-	2	2.2	1	2.8
Total	62	100.0	89	100.0	36	100.0

Question 14

In order to find more documents on your topic you can include synonyms in your search statement. To combine those synonyms in your statement, you use:

Table 15: Breakdown of responses

Response option	Pre		Post			
	All		All		Completed & Returned - Pre/Post	
	N	Percent	N	Percent	N	Percent
a AND	19	29.7	34	39.1	12	33.3
b +	24	37.5	15	17.2	7	19.4
c NOT	-	-	3	3.4	3	8.3
d OR	8	12.5	29	33.3	11	30.6
e Other (please specify)	-	-	3	3.4	1	2.8
f Don't Know	13	20.3	3	3.4	2	5.6
Total	64	100.0	87	100.0	36	100.0

Other : Combination of AND/OR

Question 15

You have found a book that is right on your topic. Which section of the book will you consult to find other documents on the topic?

Table 16: Breakdown of responses

Response option	Pre		Post			
	All		All		Completed & Returned - Pre/Post	
	N	Percent	N	Percent	N	Percent
a The glossary	5	8.1	2	2.2	2	5.6
b The index	14	22.6	17	19.1	5	13.9
c The bibliography	29	46.8	55	61.8	21	58.3
d The table of contents	11	17.7	10	11.2	6	16.7
e Other (please specify)	-	-	2	2.2	2	5.6
f Don't Know	3	4.8	3	3.4	-	-
Total	62	100.0	89	100.0	36	100.0

Other: References.

Question 16

To find all the documents about John Grisham in the library catalogue, you would do a search:

Table 17: Breakdown of responses

Response option	Pre		Post			
	All		All		Completed & Returned - Pre/Post	
	N	Percent	N	Percent	N	Percent
a By title	1	1.6	6	6.8	3	8.3
b By publisher	1	1.6	1	1.1	1	2.8
c By subject	34	53.1	37	42.0	13	36.1
d By author	28	43.8	40	45.5	19	52.8
e Other (please specify)	-	-	1	1.1	-	-
f Don't Know	-	-	3	3.4	-	-
Total	64	100.0	88	100.0	36	100.0

Other: Keyword.

Question 17

When searching a specialized database for documents on your subject, it is recommended to use terminology specific to the database. To identify these terms you would consult:

Table 18: Breakdown of responses

Response option	Pre		Post			
	All		All		Completed & Returned - Pre/Post	
	N	Percent	N	Percent	N	Percent
a An ideogram	4	6.3	17	19.5	10	28.6
b A dictionary	12	19.1	16	18.4	6	17.1
c A thesaurus	7	11.1	17	19.5	2	5.7
d An internet search engine	6	9.5	2	2.3	1	2.9
e Other (please specify)	-	-	1	1.1	-	-
f Don't Know	34	54.0	34	39.1	16	45.7
Total	63	100.0	87	100.0	35	100.0

Other: What the database instructs.

Question 18

You must make an oral presentation on the topic “*Measures currently used across the country to decrease damage to the natural environment.*” Among the following choices, which describes best the ideas contained in your subject?

Table 19: Breakdown of responses

Response option	Pre		Post			
	All		All		Completed & Returned - Pre/Post	
	N	Percent	N	Percent	N	Percent
a Damage to the natural environment, Australia	6	9.4	4	4.5	1	2.8
b Measures currently used, environment, country	2	3.1	4	4.5	1	2.8
c Damage, environment, measures currently used	13	20.3	17	19.1	5	13.9
d Protective measures, environment, Australia	40	62.5	56	62.9	24	66.7
e Other (please specify)	-	-	2	2.2	2	5.6
f Don't Know	3	4.7	6	6.7	3	8.3
Total	64	100.0	89	100.0	36	100.0

Other: Measures currently used, environment, Australia

Question 19

Using a metasearch engine such as Copernic or MetaCrawler, it is possible to:

Table 20: Breakdown of responses

Response option	Pre		Post			
	All		All		Completed & Returned - Pre/Post	
	N	Percent	N	Percent	N	Percent
a Launch a search in many search engines simultaneously	8	12.5	20	23.0	6	16.7
b Execute a search in all the existing Web sites	5	7.8	3	3.4	2	5.6
c Extend the search into foreign language Web sites	3	4.7	1	1.1	1	2.8
d Execute the search in all the databases available in the library	3	4.7	7	8.0	2	5.6
e Other (please specify)	-	-	-	-	-	-
f Don't Know	45	70.3	56	64.4	25	69.4
Total	64	100.0	87	100.0	36	100.0

Question 20

To find the most recent information about drug abuse, you would consult:

Table 21: Breakdown of responses

Response option	Pre		Post			
	All		All		Completed & Returned - Pre/Post	
	N	Percent	N	Percent	N	Percent
a A book	3	5.0	-	-	-	-
b A journal	37	61.7	85	95.5	36	100.0
c An encyclopedia	3	5.0	1	1.1	-	-
d A dictionary	-	-	-	-	-	-
e Other (please specify)	14	23.3	-	-	-	-
f Don't Know	3	5.0	3	3.4	-	-
Total	60	100.0	89	100.0	36	100.0

Question 21

You have to write a paper on the “*Treatment of depression*”. Which search strategy would find the least number of documents?

Table 22: Breakdown of responses

Response option	Pre		Post			
	All		All		Completed & Returned - Pre/Post	
	N	Percent	N	Percent	N	Percent
a Depression and psychotherapy	4	6.2	8	9.1	4	11.4
b Depression or psychotherapy or antidepressants	9	14.1	7	8.0	2	5.7
c Depression and psychotherapy and antidepressants	36	56.2	50	56.8	24	68.6
d Depression	12	18.8	13	14.8	1	2.9
e Other (please specify)	-	-	2	2.3	1	2.9
f Don't Know	3	4.7	8	9.1	3	8.6
Total	64	100.0	88	100.0	35	100.0

Other: 1. Depression + treatment.
2. French ?

Question 22

Some of the items that can be found in the library catalogue include:

- a All the titles of the books available in the library
- b All the titles of the books available on the market
- c All the titles of articles found in the journals available in the library
- d All the titles of journal available in the library
- e None of the above
- f Don't know

Table 23: Breakdown by overall category responses

Option	Pre			Post					
	All			All			Completed & Returned - Pre/Post		
	N	Percent (%)		N	Percent (%)		N	Percent (%)	
		(N=140)	(N = 64)		(N=195)	(N = 90)		(N=84)	(N = 36)
a	52	37.1	81.3	72	36.9	80.0	32	38.1	88.9
b	1	0.7	1.6	4	2.1	4.4	0	0.0	0.0
c	33	23.6	51.6	46	23.6	51.1	22	26.2	24.4
d	46	32.9	71.9	65	33.3	72.2	29	34.5	32.2
e	1	0.7	1.6	0	0.0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0
f	7	5	10.9	8	4.1	8.9	1	1.2	1.1
Total	140	100	-	195	100	-	84	100	-

Table 24: Breakdown by response combination

Combination of Option	Pre		Post			
	All		All		Completed & Returned - Pre/Post	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
a	4	6.3	9	10.5	4	11.4
a b c d	1	1.6	3	3.5	-	-
a c	3	4.7	1	1.2	-	-
a c d	28	43.8	37	43.0	21	60.0
a c d f	-	-	1	1.2	-	-
a d	16	25.0	21	24.4	7	20.0
b d	-	-	1	1.2	-	-
c d	2	3.1	4	4.7	1	2.9
d	2	3.1	2	2.3	1	2.9
e	1	1.6	-	-	-	-
f	7	10.9	7	8.1	1	2.9
Total	64	100	86	100	35	100

Question 23

Some of the characteristics used to evaluate the quality of an Internet site are that:

- a The date of publication is provided
- b The author is known in the field
- c Responsibility for the site is clearly indicated
- d The site is rapidly accessible
- e None of the above
- f Don't know

Table 25: Breakdown by overall category responses

Option	Pre			Post					
	All			All			Completed & Returned - Pre/Post		
	N	Percent (%)		N	Percent (%)		N	Percent (%)	
		(N=125)	(N = 64)		(N=175)	(N = 90)		(N=76)	(N = 36)
a	37	29.6	57.8	47	26.9	52.2	24	31.6	66.7
b	35	28	54.7	55	31.4	61.1	22	28.9	24.4
c	26	20.8	40.6	39	22.3	43.3	17	22.4	18.9
d	10	8	15.6	13	7.4	14.4	7	9.2	7.8
e	1	0.8	1.6	2	1.1	2.2	1	1.3	1.1
f	16	12.8	25	19	10.9	21.1	5	6.6	5.6
Total	125	100	-	175	100	-	76	100	-

Question 23 (Continued)

Some of the characteristics used to evaluate the quality of an Internet site are that:

- a The date of publication is provided
- b The author is known in the field
- c Responsibility for the site is clearly indicated
- d The site is rapidly accessible
- e None of the above
- f Don't know

Table 26: Breakdown by response combination

Combination of Option	Pre		Post			
	All		All		Completed & Returned - Pre/Post	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
a	4	6.3	3	3.4	2	5.6
a b	8	12.5	14	15.7	5	13.9
a b c	16	25.0	22	24.7	13	36.1
a b c d	3	4.7	6	6.7	2	5.6
a c	2	3.1	1	1.1	1	2.8
a c d	1	1.6	-	-	-	-
a d	1	1.6	1	1.1	1	2.8
a b d	2	3.1	-	-	-	-
b	3	4.7	8	9.0	2	5.6
b c	1	1.6	5	5.6	-	-
b d	2	3.1	-	-	-	-
c	3	4.7	3	3.4	-	-
c d	-	-	1	1.1	1	2.8
c d f	-	-	1	1.1	-	-
d	1	1.6	4	4.5	3	8.3
e	1	1.6	2	2.2	1	2.8
f	16	25.0	18	20.2	5	13.9
Total	64	100	89	100	36	100

Question 24

You found magazine articles and Web pages presenting different views on a current issue. You want to use this information to write your paper. In which case(s) do you need to include a reference to the source of information?

- a When you copy word for word a paragraph from a magazine article
- b When you copy word for word a paragraph from a Web page
- c When you write in your own words what is being said in a magazine article
- d When you write in your own words what is being said in a Web page
- e In none of the above cases
- f Don't know

Table 27: Breakdown by overall category responses

Option	Pre			Post					
	All			All			Completed & Returned - Pre/Post		
	N	Percent (%)		N	Percent (%)		N	Percent (%)	
		(N=146)	(N = 64)		(N=303)	(N = 90)		(N=111)	(N = 36)
a	44	30.1	68.8	110	36.3	122.2	28	25.2	77.8
b	43	29.4	67.2	65	21.5	72.2	30	27.0	33.3
c	26	17.8	40.6	61	20.1	67.8	26	23.4	28.9
d	23	15.8	35.9	55	18.2	61.1	23	20.7	25.6
e	2	1.4	3.1	2	0.7	2.2	1	0.9	1.1
f	8	5.5	12.5	10	3.3	11.1	3	2.7	3.3
Total	146	100	-	303	100	-	111	100	-

Question 24 (Continued)

You found magazine articles and Web pages presenting different views on a current issue. You want to use this information to write your paper. In which case(s) do you need to include a reference to the source of information?

- a When you copy word for word a paragraph from a magazine article
- b When you copy word for word a paragraph from a Web page
- c When you write in your own words what is being said in a magazine article
- d When you write in your own words what is being said in a Web page
- e In none of the above cases
- f Don't know

Table 28: Breakdown by response combination

Combination of Option	Pre		Post			
	All		All		Completed & Returned - Pre/Post	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
a	3	4.7	1	1.1	-	-
a b	22	34.4	11	12.5	4	11.4
a b c	1	1.6	3	3.4	2	5.7
a b c d	17	26.6	47	53.4	22	62.9
a c d	-	-	1	1.1	-	-
a e	1	1.6	-	-	-	-
b	2	3.1	3	3.4	2	5.7
b c d	1	1.6	-	-	-	-
c	3	4.7	4	4.5	1	2.9
c d	4	6.3	6	6.8	-	-
c d f			1	1.1	1	2.9
d	1	1.6	-	-	-	-
e	1	1.6	2	2.3	1	2.9
f	8	12.5	9	10.2	2	5.7
Total	64	100	88	100	35	100

Question 25

Which of the following best describe(s) articles published in a scholarly journal?

- a The information is written for the layperson
- b It includes a list of references
- c The research method used is described
- d It has been evaluated by an editorial board before publication
- e None of the above
- f Don't know

Table 29: Breakdown by overall category responses

Option	Pre						Post			
	All			All			Completed & Returned - Pre/Post			
	N	Percent (%)		N	Percent (%)		N	Percent (%)		
		(N=78)	(N = 64)		(N=161)	(N = 90)		(N=69)	(N = 36)	
a	3	3.8	4.7	7	4.3	7.8	3	4.3	8.3	
b	13	16.7	20.3	46	28.6	51.1	22	31.9	24.4	
c	12	15.4	18.8	32	19.9	35.6	14	20.3	15.6	
d	14	17.9	21.9	55	34.2	61.1	23	33.3	25.6	
e	-	-	-	1	0.6	1.1	0	0.0	0.0	
f	36	46.2	56.3	20	12.4	22.2	7	10.1	7.8	
Total	78	100	-	161	100	-	69	100	-	

Question 25 (Continued)

Which of the following best describe(s) articles published in a scholarly journal?

- a The information is written for the layperson
- b It includes a list of references
- c The research method used is described
- d It has been evaluated by an editorial board before publication
- e None of the above
- f Don't know

Table 30: Breakdown by response combination

Combination of Option	Pre		Post			
	All		All		Completed & Returned - Pre/Post	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
a	3	4.7	1	1.1	-	-
a b	22	34.4	11	12.5	4	11.4
a b c	1	1.6	3	3.4	2	5.7
a b c d	17	26.6	47	53.4	22	62.9
a b d	-	-	1	1.1	-	-
a e	1	1.6	-	-	-	-
b	2	3.1	3	3.4	2	5.7
b c d	1	1.6	-	-	-	-
c	3	4.7	4	4.5	1	2.9
c d	4	6.3	6	6.8	-	-
c d f			1	1.1	1	2.9
d	1	1.6	-	-	-	-
e	1	1.6	2	2.3	1	2.9
f	8	12.5	9	10.2	2	5.7
Total	64	100	88	100	35	100

Other Comments

At the end of the questionnaire, further comment was sought from participants. A total of seven comments were recorded in this part of the survey. They are

“Please no more questionnaires! They are time consuming and not relevant to our course!”

“This was hard.”

“I think they should make more classes compulsory to learn how to use and find journals. Also a class on referencing! I am a first year student and I still don't know how to reference, what system to use and how to find the most appropriate journals. Thanks. PS: In Frankston, not Clayton. Everybody in our course HATES Clayton!”

“Thanks. Don't know.”

“Library is pretty helpful on assisting. Nice to know we can have help when needed.”

“The information sessions were extremely helpful to me.”

“Finding information through catalogues and databases are not as difficult as I first anticipated it would be when I enrolled. It is much easier than expected, and just took a little bit of effort.”