

## Brainstorming Keywords

### What are Keywords?

- Keywords are words that represent main concepts in a research topic.
- You use keywords to search for information about your research topics.
- If you search on Google, you know a thing or two about keywords!

### Types of Keywords

There are four types of keywords you can use to help you find information.

- Narrow (focused, specific)
- Broad (general subject)
- Similar (synonyms)
- Related (linked ideas)

**Your Research topic:**

**Major concepts:**

**Narrow keywords:**

**Broad keywords:**

**Similar keywords:**

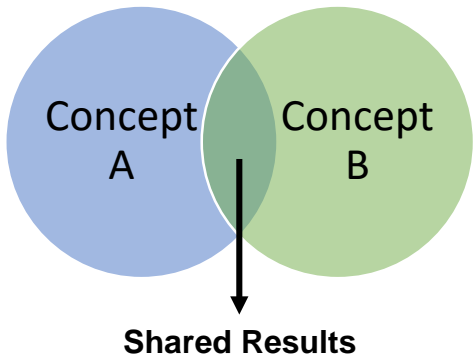
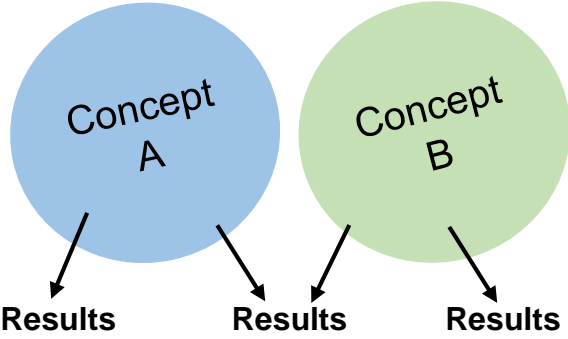
**Related keywords:**

Concept 1:	Concept 2:	Concept 3:

## Creating a Search

Once you have keywords, you need to put them together to search for information.

You can put keywords together by using Boolean Operators. Boolean Operators, or Booleans, are words that help you link concepts together.

<b>And</b> Using “and” helps narrow your search.	<b>Or</b> Using “or” helps broaden your search.
	

### Narrow Your Search

Link some of your keywords from different main concepts together with “AND” to create a search string:

### Broaden Your Search

Link some of your keywords from the same main concept together with “OR” to create a search. *TIP: You can use “OR” to link related keywords together to help you get the big picture of a topic.*