**Comparing Google and Database Content Activity – Answer Key Note: These scenarios may be up for debate!**

Please indicate by checkmark where you think you would find the best results for each search.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Scenarios** | **Google** | **Database** | **Both** | **Comments** |
| 1. You need to access a scholarly article for your biology paper. |  | X |  | While some academic articles are freely available online e.g. open access, databases are often a great place to search academic literature. |
| 1. You need to locate a recipe to make goodies for your club meeting. | X |  |  | Unless you are looking for recipes in historical magazines, the free web is probably the best place for this. (We’re ignoring our catalog with books!) |
| 1. You want to find out more about the drug Trexall that your grandmother has been prescribed for rheumatoid arthritis. |  |  | X | You may find scholarly information about this in databases, and other information, including consumer reactions / comments through Google e.g. WebMD. |
| 1. You want to know the pros and cons of Lasik eye surgery. |  |  | X | Similar to the last scenario, you can most likely find relevant information on this topic in both places. |
| 1. You need to locate high quality images of Middle Eastern architecture from the 7th century. |  | X |  | Probably a database like ARTstor would provide more/better results than just a Google images search. However, we wouldn’t be surprised if Both was selected. |
| 1. You heard that the Scientific American Mind magazine published on the topic of *Pain: New Ways to Find Relief without Opioids*.  You want to read articles in that issue. |  | X |  | Unless you have a subscription to Scientific American Mind, database access is probably your best bet. |
| 1. You are starting a research project on community protests in Fresno and you want to access some local Fresno newspapers. |  | X |  | Since newspapers often have paywalls, databases may help you access more materials. However, you may find some materials on the free web but probably more in databases. |
| 1. You want to find statistics that refer to the number of deaths from distracted driving in the U.S. in 2016. | X |  |  | Government sources often include detailed statistics that are readily available, e.g. from CDC |

**Question:** Overall, what kinds of questions seem best answered by Google versus databases? Is there a pattern?