

Learning Activity 7.1 Practise searching

Choose a topic in your course (independent learning or time management are common topic choices). It could be worth using an assessment question that you have coming up. You can then use the advice in this chapter to put it in the search bar of your university's library website. Then use the filters to narrow your results to make them more relevant. There are a number of options in the list of Filters, but you should always think about using:

- *Peer-reviewed Journals* (if you have been asked to find journal articles)
- *Books or Book Chapters* (if you need to find books – N.B. you can't use this option if you have chosen "peer-reviewed journals")
- *Date* (if you need to find works that aren't too old, unless you are referring to the origins of an idea, it is usually expected that you limit your search to the last 5 years)
- *Subject* (to find subject headings that help focus your results to the most appropriate ideas)
- *Available online* (to find articles that you can download and read now).

Now spend some time deciding which sources would be helpful and why. Focus on articles that are peer-reviewed and relevant to your context (if you are from Australia, an Australian or "western society" example is always going to be more relevant to you and your situation).

Space for notes and reflection: