Formulating a Keyword Search Exercise

**Step One:**

Write your topic below:
*Example: Do video games help improve memory skills in senior citizens?*

**Step Two:**

Pull out the key concepts in your topic:
*Example: Do video games help improve memory skills in senior citizens?*

**Step Three:**

Consider like terms:

*Example:*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Key Concepts</th>
<th>Video games</th>
<th>Memory</th>
<th>Senior citizens</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Computer games</strong></td>
<td>cognition</td>
<td>seniors</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Electronic games</strong></td>
<td>recall</td>
<td>elderly</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Step Four:

Formulate your searches using the operators ‘AND’.

‘AND’ returns results that include ALL your search terms. This means the more keywords you connect with ‘AND’ the fewer the results. And, hopefully, the more precise the results.

This search will return results with the words seniors AND “video games” AND memory. A search for elderly AND cognition AND “video games” will likely return different results.

Search tip: Put phrases in quotation marks (" ").

Write down a few keyword searches you can try for your topic: