

Literary Criticism

Where and How to Find High-Quality
Information in Databases and at the Library!

Edison Library Website

Go to `lakes.k12.in.us`

Under **SELECT A SCHOOL**,
select **EDISON**

Under **PROGRAMS AND SERVICES**,
select **LIBRARY**

Under **STUDENTS**,
select **CLASS RESOURCES**

The screenshot shows the Edison Library Website interface. On the left is a dark grey sidebar with the heading "LIBRARY" in white. Below the heading is a list of menu items, each preceded by a small circle icon. The items are: "Welcome to Edison Library", "General", "Library Books", "Library Programs", "Public Library", "Evaluating Sources", "Testing", "Students", "Citation Help", "Class Resources", and "Websites". Two red arrows point to the "Students" and "Class Resources" items, with the numbers "1" and "2" respectively. To the right of the sidebar is the main content area, which has a white background. At the top of this area, the link "[AP English Spring 2024 \(pdf\)](#)" is circled in red. Below this link, there is a list of other resources, including "English 10 Careers 2023 - Print S", "English 10 Careers 2023 - Electro", "US History - We Didn't Start the", "English 10 Careers 2022 - Print S", "English 10 Careers 2022 - Electro", and "English 9 Persuasion Topics 202".

LIBRARY

- Welcome to Edison Library
- General
- Library Books
- Library Programs
- Public Library
- Evaluating Sources
- Testing
- ↑ Students
- Citation Help
- Class Resources
- Websites

[AP English Spring 2024 \(pdf\)](#)

English 10 Careers 2023 - Print S

English 10 Careers 2023 - Electro

US History - We Didn't Start the

English 10 Careers 2022 - Print S

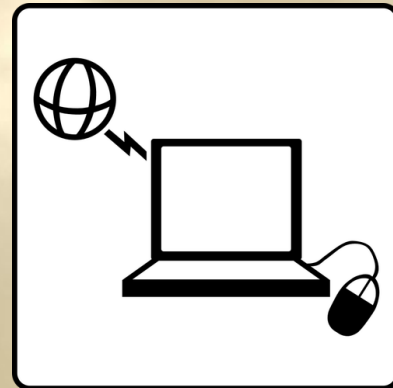
English 10 Careers 2022 - Electro

English 9 Persuasion Topics 202

What is an electronic database?

Databases allow you to search the content of articles in *academic journals**, magazines, and other materials.

**Academic journals* are also called peer-reviewed, scholarly, or professional journals and are preferred for university-level research.



Internet



Some resources are free, but others require you to pay for them.

Information is not evaluated for accuracy and may be incorrect, misleading, or biased.

Websites come and go.

The Internet is a vast sea of information with no organization.

A search engine (like Google) often returns an overwhelming number of results with no quick way to narrow them down or ensure they relate to your topic.

Difficult to cite.

Electronic Databases



Paid for by the library so you have free access to scholarly information.

Content is evaluated for authority and accuracy.

Information is stable.

You can find databases relating specifically to your topic.

Library databases offer options to quickly limit or expand your search to find the articles you need.

Usually super easy to cite.

Search Terms



— — —
Before you begin...

Think about your search terms...

What words will you type in when searching?

Be open-minded and try various search terms.

Only use key words.

Watch your spelling, especially when using databases.

If you find too much information, you might need to narrow your search terms – be more specific or add words.

If you don't find enough information, you might need to broaden your search terms – be less specific or remove words.

Example: Jane Eyre (title), Charlotte Brontë (author), religion, religious, Christianity, Christian, God, faith, theology, righteousness, etc.

How to Access Lake County Public Library's Electronic Databases

— — —

1. Go to lcplin.org
2. Under RESEARCH, click ONLINE RESEARCH TOOLS
3. Under PICK A TOPIC, click SEE ALL DATABASES
4. When prompted, sign in using information on your LCPL eLibrary Card

Gale Literary Sources

“Search for academic articles, essays, and topics about literature. Includes items from Literature Criticism Online, Literature Resource Center, Gale Virtual Reference Library, and more.”

Click GALE LITERARY SOURCES

Enter your search terms in the search field at the top and click magnifying glass icon

Once your results appear, make sure FULL TEXT DOCUMENTS box is checked (Under DOCUMENT TYPE, consider selecting CRITICAL ESSAY – and APPLY)

Click on an article's title (in blue) to open article

To cite, click CITE icon at top of screen



EBSCO Research Databases

— — —

“Choose multiple databases to search at once.
Offers a variety of topics, including literature and newspapers.”

Click EBSCO RESEARCH DATABASES

Check SELECT/DESELECT ALL box and click CONTINUE

Enter your search terms in the search field at the top and click SEARCH

Once your results appear, check FULL TEXT box and any other limiters (Academic Journals?)

Click on an article's title (in blue) and read the abstract (if there is one) to determine usefulness to your research

Consider clicking subject links to see similar articles

To cite, click CITE icon on right side of screen



INSPIRE

— — —

“Free to Indiana residents: a searchable database of databases.”

Click INSPIRE

Enter your search terms in the search field at the top and click SEARCH

**Once your results appear, click ONLINE FULL TEXT box and any other limiters.
(Source Type: Academic Journals?)**

Click on an article's title (in bold) and read the abstract (if there is one) to determine usefulness to your research

Consider clicking on subject links to see similar articles

To cite, click CITE icon on right side of screen



Biography in Context

— — —

“Comprehensive information on just about any famous person, including inventors, politicians, authors, celebrities, and many others.”

Click BIOGRAPHY IN CONTEXT

Click ADVANCED SEARCH under search field

Check FULL TEXT DOCUMENTS box

Type your search terms (probably a person's name) in “Search for” field at top and click SEARCH button

Click on article's title to read it

To cite, click CITE icon at top of screen



LCPL OPAC

— — —

Lake County Public Library - Online Public Access Catalog

lcplin.org

In blank search field, type your broad/general search terms and click magnifying glass

Consider entering adding the words “criticism” or “critical” or “interpretation” or “analysis” or “Bloom’s” to your book title and/or author

Consider limiting by format

Click on AVAILABILITY button to see an item’s location and status

Explore item records by clicking on titles - consider clicking on subject links in item records

If you have a library card, you can request items, and they’ll arrive at the branch of your choice in a couple of days!

If you don’t have a library card, get one - or you can go to the branch that owns the item and use it inhouse

Check your citations here:

https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research_and_citation/mla_style/mla_formatting_and_style_guide/index.html

Click MLA FORMATTING AND STYLE GUIDE,
select MLA WORKS CITED: ELECTRONIC SOURCES
(WEB PUBLICATIONS) in menu on left, and
use “An Article from an Online Database (or
Other Electronic Subscription Service)”

Or use the links from the Edison Library
website...

Click STUDENTS, then CITATION HELP

