

SAMPLE SURVEY OF LAW STUDENT RESEARCH HABITS AND SKILLS

This sample survey of law student research habits and abilities is divided into four parts, which correspond with the experience level of the students to be surveyed. The various sections are intended to be used as distinct surveys, to be administered as students progress through their legal education.

PART I: EVALUATION OF THE RESEARCH HABITS AND INFORMATION LITERACY OF INCOMING LAW STUDENTS

PRIOR EXPERIENCE (BACKGROUND)

1. I am entering law school (circle all that apply):
 - a. Directly from undergrad
 - b. Directly from another graduate program (what program? _____)
 - c. With a year or more of non-law-related work experience
 - d. With a year or more of law-related work experience
 - e. After having been away from undergrad or graduate school or the work force for one year or more.
 - f. Other (please explain): _____

2. Have you had any research experience outside of course work?
 - a. Yes
My research experience consisted of: _____
 - b. No

3. Have you done any legal research before law school?
 - a. Yes, for undergrad course(s)
 - b. Yes, for graduate level course(s)
 - c. Yes, in my employment
 - d. Yes, in the following context: _____
 - e. No

4. Have you ever taken a course that concentrated solely on research or research & writing skills?
 - a. Yes, for credit in undergrad
 - b. Yes, not-for-credit in undergrad
 - c. Yes, for credit in graduate school

- d. Yes, not-for-credit in graduate school
 - e. No
 - f. Other (please explain): _____
5. Did you enjoy researching for papers in undergrad and/or graduate school?
- a. Yes
 - b. No
6. In your prior academic research experience, what was your most important source for information?
- a. Internet Webpages
 - b. Blogs
 - c. Wikis (such as Wikipedia)
 - d. Books
 - e. Subscription Databases (such as ProQuest or EBSCO)
 - f. Journals/Periodicals
 - g. Other (please specify): _____
7. In your prior academic research experience, what sources would you typically consult? (circle all that apply)
- a. Reference Librarian
 - b. Internet (via search engine, such as Google)
 - c. Blogs
 - d. Wikis (such as Wikipedia)
 - e. Subscription Databases available through library webpage (such as ProQuest or EBSCO)
 - f. Library Catalog
 - g. Periodical Articles
 - h. Books
 - i. Other (please specify): _____
8. In your prior academic research experience, how did you most often identify relevant sources?
- a. Reference Librarian
 - b. Internet Search Engine (such as Google)
 - c. Blogs
 - d. Wikis (such as Wikipedia)
 - e. Library Catalog
 - f. Periodical Indexes
 - g. Subscription Database searches (such as ProQuest or EBSCO)
 - h. Other (please specify): _____

9. In your prior academic research experience, were you instructed how to create, or was it suggested that you use, a research log when completing a research assignment?
 - a. Yes
 - b. No

10. In your prior academic research experience, did you create a research log while completing assignments?
 - a. Yes
 - b. No

11. What is the average amount of time you would spend researching for a term paper (or other paper over 10 pages long)?
 - a. 1-4 hours
 - b. 4-8 hours
 - c. 8-12 hours
 - d. Over 12-20 hours
 - e. Over 20 hours

12. When working on a research paper in your prior academic experience, how would you estimate your time was divided?
 - a. $\frac{1}{2}$ on research , $\frac{1}{2}$ on writing
 - b. $\frac{3}{4}$ on research, $\frac{1}{4}$ on writing
 - c. $\frac{1}{4}$ on research, $\frac{3}{4}$ on writing
 - d. Other ratio: _____

TECHNOLOGY SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE

13. How often are you on Facebook?
 - a. At least once a day
 - b. At least once a week
 - c. At least once a month
 - d. Rarely
 - e. Never

14. How often are you on MySpace?
 - a. At least once a day
 - b. At least once a week
 - c. At least once a month
 - d. Rarely
 - e. Never

15. Do you regularly contribute to a blog?
 - a. Yes
 - b. No

16. Are you a regular reader of any blogs?
 - a. Yes
 - b. No

17. Have you used audio or video podcasts for academic purposes?
 - a. Yes
 - b. No

18. Have you contributed to any wikis?
 - a. Yes
 - b. No

PERCEPTION OF SKILLS & EXPECTATIONS

19. How would you rate your research skills compared to those of your peers?
 - a. Far above average
 - b. Above average
 - c. Average
 - d. Below average
 - e. Far below average

20. How would you rate your computer and technology skills compared to those of your peers?
 - a. Far above average
 - b. Above average
 - c. Average
 - d. Below average
 - e. Far below average

21. Do you expect to be spending more or less time on research in law school than in prior schools?
 - a. More
 - b. Less
 - c. Don't know

What is this expectation based on? (e.g., movies, speaking with law students, etc.)

22. Do you expect legal research to be similar to other types of research you have done?
- a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Don't know

CIVICS

23. What are the branches of government in the United States?
- a. Executive, Judicial, Legislative
 - b. Executive, Judicial, Presidential, Legislative
 - c. Executive, Judicial, International, Legislative
 - d. Judicial, International, Legislative
24. Which branch of government passes laws (statutes)?
- a. Executive
 - b. Judicial
 - c. Presidential
 - d. International
 - e. Legislative
25. Who is granted treaty-making power in the U.S. Constitution? (circle all that apply)
- a. President
 - b. Congress
 - c. Judiciary
 - d. Foreign Affairs Officials
 - e. Individual States
 - f. Tribunals
26. What does the term "separation of powers" refer to:
- a. Separation of powers between the federal/state/local governments
 - b. Separation of church and state powers
 - c. Separation of powers between various branches of government
 - d. Separation of financial powers between the government and corporations
27. Which document seeks to "establish justice" and "promote the general welfare?"
- a. Declaration of Independence
 - b. Federalist Papers
 - c. U.S. Constitution
 - d. Bill of Rights
28. What was the goal of the Bill of Rights
- a. To define the rights of the U.S. to defend itself against foreign aggressors
 - b. To protect states from infringement of their rights by the federal government

- c. To protect individual citizens from infringement of their rights by other citizens
 - d. To protect individual citizens from infringement of their rights by the government
29. How many Senators are there in the U.S. Congress?
- a. Depends on the population at the time of election
 - b. 100
 - c. 50
 - d. 200
30. Supreme Court Justices are appointed by:
- a. National ballot
 - b. Committee of federal judges
 - c. U.S. Senate Confirmation
 - d. U.S. President
31. Who has the Constitutional power to declare war?
- a. Department of Defense, by resolution
 - b. Congress
 - c. President
 - d. Congress or the President
32. Who has the authority to declare federal and state laws unconstitutional?
- a. President
 - b. Judiciary
 - c. Congress
 - d. American Bar Association

RESEARCH QUESTIONS

33. Circle all the sources you would consult to identify articles relevant to a particular issue:
- a. Full-text Subscription Database (such as ProQuest, EBSCO, etc.)
 - b. Internet
 - c. Library Catalog
 - d. Periodical Index
 - e. Other (please specify): _____
34. Circle all the sources you would consult to identify books relevant to a particular issue:
- a. Full-Text Subscription Database (such as ProQuest, EBSCO, etc.)
 - b. Internet
 - c. Library Catalog
 - d. Periodical Index
 - e. Other (please specify): _____

35. You need to obtain a copy of the following item:
Barack Obama, Audacity of Hope: Thoughts on Reclaiming the American Dream (2006)
Rank the following sources in the order you would use them.
- Library Catalog: search for _____
 - Internet search engine
 - Subscription Database (such as ProQuest, EBSCO, etc.)
 - Index
 - Other (please specify): _____
36. You need to obtain a copy of the following item:
Joan Sompayrac, *Don't Volunteer for Trouble*, 195 J. of Accountancy 81 (2003)
Rank the following sources in the order you would use them.
- Library Catalog: search for _____
 - Internet search engine
 - Subscription Database
 - Index
 - Other (please specify): _____
37. What information is typically available through a library catalog? (Circle all that apply)
- Book Title
 - Book Author
 - Location of book in Library
 - Periodical Title
 - Article Title
 - Article Author
 - Citation to Articles
 - Full-Text of Articles
 - Article Abstracts
 - Book synopsis
 - Location of article in library
38. What information is typically available through a periodical index? (Circle all that apply)
- Book Title
 - Book Author
 - Location of Books in Library
 - Periodical Title
 - Article Title
 - Article Author
 - Citation to Article
 - Full-Text of Article
 - Article Abstracts
 - Book synopsis
 - Location of article in Library

39. If looking for information on a news item from within the past year, rank the following resources in the order you would consult them:
- Internet search engine
 - Books
 - Journal Articles
 - Newspaper Articles
 - Periodical Indexes
 - Subscription Databases
 - Other (please specify): _____
40. Primary Source **is to** Secondary Source, as:
- 1st source consulted **is to** 2nd source consulted
 - Original document or source **is to** explanatory document or source
 - Explanatory document or source **is to** original document or source
41. Which options satisfy the Boolean search string below? (circle all that apply)
- (tiger OR lion) AND (jungle NOT book)
- Shere Khan is the name of the tiger in "The Jungle Book."
 - There is no lion character in "The Jungle Book."
 - "Let's bungle in the jungle
Well, that's all right by me.
I'm a tiger when I want love,
but I'm a snake if we disagree."
-Jethro Tull
 - "In the jungle, the quiet jungle, the lion sleeps tonight."
-the Tokens
 - There is a tiger in "The Jungle Book", but no lion.
42. You found a book or set of books that might be relevant to your research topic. How would you determine whether it (they) contain the information you need? (circle all that apply)
- Consult the Table of Contents
 - Ask your professor
 - Ask a reference librarian
 - Browse through the book
 - Do an internet search for the book title
 - Search a subscription database for the book title
 - Consult the index
 - Other (please specify): _____

**PART II: EVALUATION OF THE RESEARCH HABITS AND SKILLS OF LAW STUDENTS
AFTER COMPLETION OF THE BASIC LEGAL RESEARCH CLASS**

MULTIPLE CHOICE

Legal authorities

1. Which of the following statements are correct?
 - a. Primary authorities, such as legal periodicals, encyclopedias, and treatises, contain the law.
 - b. Secondary authorities explain and analyze the law.
 - c. A case from another state is secondary authority, since it is not binding in your state.
 - d. All of the above.
 - e. None of the above.

2. What factors determine whether a case you have located is mandatory or persuasive authority for a problem you are researching?
 - a. The jurisdiction in which the case was decided
 - b. The factual similarity of the case to the facts you are researching
 - c. The level of court that decided the case
 - d. How recently the case was decided
 - e. All of the above
 - f. None of the above

Secondary sources

3. Which of the following are secondary sources? (Choose as many as apply)
 - a. A treatise by a well known legal scholar
 - b. A legal newspaper
 - c. An advisory opinion from the Commissioner of the IRS
 - d. A report from a House or Senate Committee

4. When looking for a secondary source to cite as persuasive authority in a brief, a researcher would be best advised in most circumstances to choose:
 - a. a legal encyclopedia
 - b. a Restatement of the Law
 - c. American Law Reports (ALR)
 - d. a hornbook

5. Which of the following are goals of consulting secondary sources in legal research:
 - a. To get an overview of the topic
 - b. To develop your understanding of the issue(s)
 - c. To substitute for time-consuming primary source research

- d. To generate research vocabulary, e.g., terms of art
 - e. a, b, and d, but not c
6. Once you develop a familiar or favorite type of secondary source (e.g., ALR, Am. Jur., or treatises) you can generally rely on that source for research projects on varying topics.
- a. True
 - b. False
7. One can generally rely on a well-chosen secondary source to provide a comprehensive set of citations to primary authorities.
- a. True
 - b. False
8. It is generally important to consult not just one, but several, secondary sources when beginning a research project.
- a. True
 - b. False
9. The best time to consult a secondary source is at the beginning of your research.
- a. True
 - b. False

Statutes

10. The Term “popular name” of a statute refers to:
- a. The name given the statute by the legislative body
 - b. The name commonly used by lawyers to refer to a statute
 - c. Both of the above
 - d. Neither of the above
11. The difference between statutory codes and session laws is:
- a. A statutory code is a topical compilation of the statutes currently in force in a jurisdiction; session laws are chronological and publish laws as they are passed by the legislative body.
 - b. A statutory code contains both legislative and administrative materials, while a set of session laws contains only statutes.
 - c. A statutory code contains both current and prior versions of a statute section, while session laws contain only the current version.
 - d. All of the above.
 - e. None of the above.

12. When would you consult session laws as opposed to a statutory code?
 - a. When you want to see a statute in the form in which it was originally enacted
 - b. When you want to see cross-references to cases and other materials
 - c. When you want to see whether a statute has ever been amended

13. Various ways of locating the citation for a statute on a particular topic include:
 - a. Using the print index or table of contents to the statutory code
 - b. Using the Popular Name table, which is available only in print
 - c. Using the index or table of contents available on Lexis or Westlaw
 - d. Using Wikipedia
 - e. All of the above
 - f. a, b, and d, but not c

14. The term “annotated” means the following when applied to a statutory code:
 - a. It means that the code is arranged by topic
 - b. It means that the code contains prior versions of the statutes
 - c. It means that the code contains cross-references to cases, secondary sources, and other materials
 - d. All of the above
 - e. None of the above

15. Which of the following statements are correct?
 - I. Statutes can be KeyCited or Shepardized.
 - II. A complete statute citation includes the date the code volume it appears in was published.
 - III. A statutory code is a chronological compilation of statutes.
 - a. I & II
 - b. II & III
 - c. II only
 - d. III only

Case research

16. “Headnotes” are judge-written summaries of the legal issues in a case.
 - a. True
 - b. False

17. Both Lexis and Westlaw provide headnotes for the cases in their databases.
 - a. True
 - b. False

18. The purpose of headnotes is
 - a. To allow a researcher to avoid having to read the full text of judicial opinions.
 - b. To allow a researcher to see the main issues in a case to determine whether it is relevant to the issues being researched.
 - c. To serve as a research tool to help locate additional cases on the same legal issues.
 - d. All of the above.
 - e. None of the above.
19. The term "citor" refers to
 - a. KeyCite or Shepard's
 - b. A print source that allows you to look up later cases that have referred to a case
 - c. A tool that puts your case citations into Bluebook format.
20. If a case on Lexis or Westlaw contains a red flag or a red stop sign icon, that case cannot be relied upon or cited.
 - a. True
 - b. False
21. Citators are used solely to determine whether a case is still "good law."
 - a. True
 - b. False
22. "Overruled and "reversed" are two different terms that mean the same thing.
 - a. True
 - b. False
23. If a case is designated by the deciding court as "unpublished":
 - a. It is equal to a "published" case in precedential value.
 - b. It should never be cited as authority.
 - c. It may be cite-able depending on the rules of your jurisdiction.
 - d. None of the above statements is correct.

SHORT ANSWERS

24. Assume you have Shepardized a case on Lexis or KeyCited it on Westlaw, and you found 1044 citing references. List three ways in which you could limit or narrow the citor results.
 - a. Limit by _____
 - b. Limit by _____
 - c. Limit by _____
25. Using only print sources, how would you find the Maryland case of *Kennedy v. Cummings*, if you did not have the citation?

26. Briefly describe three ways you could identify a relevant topic and key number to use in a print West Digest or on Westlaw to find cases addressing an issue you are researching.

27. Below is a copy of a code section from title 17 of the U.S.C.S. on Lexis. Look carefully at the legislative history parenthetical to answer the following questions:

§ 107. Limitations on exclusive rights: Fair use

Notwithstanding the provisions of sections 106 and 106A, the fair use of a copyrighted work, including such use by reproduction in copies or phonorecords or by any other means specified by that section, for purposes such as criticism, comment, news reporting, teaching (including multiple copies for classroom use), scholarship, or research, is not an infringement of copyright. In determining whether the use made of a work in any particular case is a fair use the factors to be considered shall include--

(1) the purpose and character of the use, including whether such use is of a commercial nature or is for nonprofit educational purposes;

(2) the nature of the copyrighted work;

(3) the amount and substantiality of the portion used in relation to the copyrighted work as a whole; and

(4) the effect of the use upon the potential market for or value of the copyrighted work.

The fact that a work is unpublished shall not itself bar a finding of fair use if such finding is made upon consideration of all the above factors.

HISTORY:

(Oct. 19, 1976, P.L. 94-553, Title I, § 101, 90 Stat. 2546; Dec. 1, 1990, P.L. 101-650, Title VI, § 607, 104 Stat. 5132; Oct. 24, 1992, P.L. 102-492, 106 Stat. 3145.)

- a. What is the public law number of the original enactment creating this section?
- b. To what do the phrases "Title I, § 101" and "Title VI, § 607" refer?
- c. How would you determine whether any pending legislation might affect this statute section?

ESSAYS, ETC.

You have been asked to research whether a change in schedule and responsibilities imposed on an employee who has had frequent and unscheduled absences due to a chronic health problem violates the federal Americans with Disabilities Act and the federal Family and Medical Leave Act. Assume that your jurisdiction is Maryland.

28. Because you are not familiar with this area of the law, you wish to begin by obtaining an overview of the area through some background research. Discuss at least three types of secondary sources you could use for that purpose, and specifically explain why your choices would be useful for this particular research problem.
29. Assume you have not been able to locate any helpful secondary sources. You have decided to run searches in Westlaw or Lexis to search for relevant cases.
 - a. Which database would you select and why?
 - 1) A database containing only 4th Circuit Court of Appeal decisions
 - 2) A database containing all federal court opinions
 - 3) A database containing federal and state opinions from Maryland
 - 4) A database containing all federal cases arising within the Fourth Circuit
 - b. Would you start with Natural Language or Terms & Connectors searches, and why? Compose three sample searches of each type and write them below.
30. Through your background research, you have identified a section of the United States Code, Title 29, section 2612, that appears to be relevant to the case. You have available to you only the following versions of the federal code: U.S.C. in print; U.S.C.S. in print; and Westlaw. Explain the strengths and weaknesses of each source and your considerations in deciding which one to use at this point.
31. As you read through United States Code, Title 29, section 2612, it occurs to you that there may be administrative agency regulations promulgated pursuant to this statute. What methods could you use to determine whether such regulations exist?
32. You have read various sections of the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA), including Title 29, section 2612, in the U.S. Code Service. This section deals with the issue of whether FMLA leave can be taken in increments as opposed to as a continuous period of

absence. You now wish to locate pertinent cases that have interpreted and applied the statute. Discuss three different approaches you might take at this point, and explain the advantages and disadvantages of each.

33. Your research has led you to a 1998 case from the Seventh Circuit, Haschmann v. Time Warner Entertainment, (cite omitted) which is relevant to your issue. Discuss what steps you would take to check the status of the Haschmann case. Additionally, discuss specifically how you could use this case to assist you in locating further relevant case law.
34. Given that you have a limited time to conduct your research, how will you evaluate when your research is complete and you can comfortably present your results to the supervising attorney?
35. You have at this point located an array of sources pertaining to the issue. Characterize each of the sources listed below, in the context of the research you are conducting, as either primary or secondary authority AND as either mandatory or persuasive authority.

- Section 2612 of the Family and Medical Leave Act (Title 29 of the United States Code, section 2612)

Circle one choice in each category:

primary OR secondary
mandatory OR persuasive

- An article in the Washington University Law Quarterly entitled AWill the Interaction of the Family Medical Leave Act and the Americans with Disabilities Act Leave Employers with an Undue Hardship?

Circle one choice in each category:

primary OR secondary
mandatory OR persuasive

- Tyndall v. National Ed. Ctr., Inc. (1994, 4th Circuit Court of Appeals)

Circle one choice in each category:

primary OR secondary
mandatory OR persuasive

- Section 281 of the Labor and Employment article in American Jurisprudence

Circle one choice in each category:

primary OR secondary
mandatory OR persuasive

- Campbell v. Price (1998, U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Missouri)

Circle one choice in each category:

primary OR secondary
mandatory OR persuasive

**PART III: EVALUATION OF THE RESEARCH HABITS AND SKILLS OF LAW STUDENTS
AFTER LAW-RELATED SUMMER EMPLOYMENT**

1. What year are you currently in?
 - a. 2L
 - b. 3L

2. Did you have a summer job this past summer?
 - a. No (If you answered No, please continue to the next section.)
 - b. Yes (If you answered this question, continue to Question 2.)

3. What type of summer job did you have?
 - a. Internship/clerkship at a law firm (corporate, solo practice, small firm)
 - b. Internship/clerkship at a governmental (national, state, local) agency
 - c. Teaching assistant
 - d. Research assistant
 - e. Other _____

4. During your summer job, did you do any legal research?
 - a. No (If you answered No, please skip ahead to question 15.)
 - b. Yes (If you answered Yes, continue to question 4.)

5. How many assignments (memos, briefs, complaints, etc.) were you assigned during your summer employment?
 - a. 0 (If you answered 0, skip ahead to question 15).
 - b. 1
 - c. 2
 - d. 3
 - e. 4

6. On average, how long would it take to complete the research for one assignment?
 - a. A couple of hours
 - b. One business day
 - c. One workweek
 - d. One month
 - e. I worked on the same assignment during the entire summer or I did not complete any assignments during the summer.

7. Did your employer insist that you use electronic resources over print resources, or vice versa?
 - a. Employer preferred electronic resources.
 - b. Employer preferred print resources.
 - c. Employer did not care, as long as the assignment was complete.

8. What format do you prefer to use?
 - a. Print
 - b. Electronic
 - c. A combination of both
 - d. I am uncomfortable using both print and electronic resources.

9. Even if your employer said to use print sources, did you use/feel tempted to use your law school Lexis or Westlaw accounts?
 - a. Yes
 - b. No

10. What types of legal materials did you research? (Check all that apply.)
 - a. Cases
 - b. Codes or statutes
 - c. Regulations
 - d. International materials
 - e. Secondary Sources

11. Did your employer recommend that you start your research with secondary sources?
 - a. Yes
 - b. No

12. If you had access to electronic databases, which database did you use the most?
 - a. LexisNexis
 - b. Westlaw
 - c. Both LexisNexis and Westlaw
 - d. Other database (BNA, Loislaw, etc.)
 - e. I did not use electronic databases. I prefer using print.

13. When using electronic databases, were you given login information or did you rely on passwords provided to you in law school?
 - a. My employer provided me with new login information.
 - b. I used the passwords that were given to me in law school.

14. What do you think would have helped you during your research? (Check all that apply.)
 - a. Knowing the perfect combination of search terms and connectors.
 - b. Knowing where to find specific materials, such as regulations or cases.
 - c. A different subscription plan or familiarity with the database
 - d. Knowing how to find it print
 - e. Taking an Advanced Legal Research class

15. If there is an Advanced Legal Research class offered at your law school, do you plan to take it?
- a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Maybe, it depends on my schedule or if I can get into other classes.
 - d. I don't know if there is an Advanced Legal Research class offered at my law school.
 - e. There is no Advanced Legal Research class offered at my law school.
16. What skills do you hope to get out of an Advanced Legal Research class? (Check all that apply.)
- a. Cost-effective print research skills
 - b. Cost-effective electronic research skills
 - c. How to construct the perfect search string
 - d. Similarities and differences between the legal materials
 - e. I learned everything I need to know from my summer employment.

**PART IV: EVALUATION OF THE RESEARCH HABITS AND SKILLS OF LAW STUDENTS
IN THEIR FINAL SEMESTER**

BASIC LEGAL RESEARCH

1. Does your future employer have a law library?

- a. Yes
- b. No

If not, what is the name of the closest law library that you will have access to?

2. Please provide the full names and Bluebook abbreviations of the official federal statutes and the two unofficial annotated sets?

Official: _____

Unofficial: _____ and _____

a. What does "annotated" mean?

b. Why would I use an annotated set rather than the official unannotated set?

3. State Statutes:

a. What is the name of your state statutes? _____

b. What is the Bluebook abbreviation? _____

c. Are they available online for free?

1) Yes

2) No

If yes, where? _____

d. Are they available on Westlaw?

1) Yes

2) No

If yes, what is the database identifier and name? _____

If yes, are annotations included?

a) Yes

b) No

e. Are they available on LexisNexis?

1) Yes

2) No

If yes, what is the database identifier and name? _____

If yes, are annotations included?

- a) Yes
- b) No

4. Your hiring partner tells you to “find a secondary source on this topic to start your research” – what is a secondary source? Provide examples.
5. Name two popular legal encyclopedias that are available in print and online (include their abbreviations).
- a. _____
 - b. _____
6. Name a state legal encyclopedia for your state.
- _____
7. Name a multi-volume treatise in an area of law of interest to you (e.g., copyright, products liability).
- a. Is it available in your local law library?
 - 1) Yes
 - 2) No
 - b. Is it available free on the Internet?
 - 1) Yes
 - 2) No
 - c. Is it on Westlaw?
 - 1) Yes
 - 2) No
 - d. Is it on LexisNexis?
 - 1) Yes
 - 2) No
 - e. Circle the tools this volume has to help the researcher.
 - 1) Table of Contents
 - 2) Index
 - 3) Table of Cases
 - 4) Table of Statutes
 - 5) Glossary of Terms
 - 6) Sample Forms
8. What is the name of the print tool used to find cases on a particular subject (an index to case law)? _____

What is the name of the version of this tool that only covers U.S. Supreme Court cases? _____

9. How do "Topics and Key Numbers" help me find cases on a specific legal topic?

10. What is the name of the citation verification and validation tool that is available on Westlaw (sometimes called a "citor")?

Which of the following sources can be updated with this tool?

- a. Cases
- b. Statutes
- c. Regulations

11. What is the name of the citation verification and validation tool that is available on LexisNexis (sometimes called a "citor")?

Which of the following sources can be updated with this tool?

- a. Cases
- b. Statutes
- c. Regulations

ADVANCED LEGAL RESEARCH

12. What is the name of the publication containing federal agency regulations?

- a. What is its Bluebook abbreviation? _____
- b. Is it available in your local law library?
 - 1) Yes
 - 2) No
- c. Is it available free on the Internet?
 - 1) Yes
 - 2) No
- d. Is it available on Westlaw?
 - 1) Yes
 - 2) No
- e. Is it available on LexisNexis?
 - 1) Yes
 - 2) No

13. What is the name of the publication containing proposed and brand new federal agency regulations?

- a. What is its Bluebook abbreviation? _____
- b. Is it available in your local law library?
 - 1) Yes
 - 2) No
- c. Is it available free on the Internet?
 - 1) Yes
 - 2) No
- d. Is it available on Westlaw?
 - 1) Yes
 - 2) No
- e. Is it available on LexisNexis?
 - 1) Yes
 - 2) No

14. What is the name of the publication containing your state agency regulations?

15. Explain in a sentence or two how each of the following searches will be performed in a database of law review articles on Westlaw or LexisNexis:

a. "informed consent" w/s pharmacogenomics

b. ("failure to warn" or "duty to warn") /25 genetic

c. (tobacco or smok! or cigarette) and (minors or juvenile or youth)

16. Law Schools or Law School Libraries typically pay for the Westlaw and LexisNexis access provided to law students. When you are working, your employer pays for this access and might charge your research time back to your clients.

a. What subscription payment plan do they have at your future job (or at your last summer job)? (transactional, time) _____

b. How do you determine how much money you are spending on Westlaw or LexisNexis? _____

17. If you are asked to find sample forms (e.g, real estate lease, will, contract), describe three strategies you would use to find them either online or in print [e.g., library catalog; WL or LN databases; Internet]

- a. _____
- b. _____
- c. _____

18. You have been given a legal research problem in an area of law you are unfamiliar with (e.g., you handle contract issues but you've been asked to work on a criminal law matter). Rank the following sources in the order in which you would consult them (first, second, third etc.) in your research process and explain why:

- _____ Practice materials (sometimes called "deskbooks") from a national publisher (ABA) or your state Bar Association.
- _____ Case law
- _____ Statutes
- _____ Legal encyclopedia (either national or state specific)
- _____ Law review articles
- _____ Google (Internet searching)

19. Your law partner asks you to "do a legislative history of this federal law from the 1972"

- a. Why would he want a "legislative history"? How do lawyers use this information?

- b. What types of congressional sources are included in a "legislative history"? Which is the most important?

- c. If the material is not available on Westlaw or LexisNexis, what source(s) would you consult?

20. Define "foreign law"

21. Define "international law"

22. What is a treaty?

23. What source contains information on all of the treaties the U.S. is a party to?

- a. Is it available free on the Internet?
 - 1) Yes
 - 2) No

- b. Is it available on LexisNexis?
 - 1) Yes
 - 2) No
 - c. Is it available on Westlaw?
 - 1) Yes
 - 2) No
24. Which of the following legal research systems have you used during law school and/or legal jobs during law school (including summer employment):
- a. CaseMaker
 - b. LexisNexis
 - c. Loislaw
 - d. Westlaw

INTERNET RESEARCH

25. What are the criteria you use to evaluate the reliability and authority of a free Internet legal resource? [*Whether the publisher of the site is reputable and knowledgeable; Whether the content of the site is accurate, authentic, and objective; Whether the content can be retrieved via keyword, author, or title searching; Whether the information is current; Whether the information is frequently updated*]
26. Which of the following free Internet sources of legal information do you use?¹
- a. PreCYdent
 - b. PLoL (<http://www.plol.org/>)(the Public Library of Law)
 - c. AltLaw (<http://www.altlaw.org/>)
 - d. LexisOne (<http://www.lexisone.com/>)
 - e. Cornell’s Legal Information Institute (<http://www.law.cornell.edu/>)
 - f. Your State Legislature homepage
 - g. Thomas (from Library of Congress)(<http://thomas.loc.gov/>)
 - h. GPO Access (<http://www.gpoaccess.gov/>)
27. What is a blog? _____
- a. In the world of legal research, when would it be helpful to visit a blog?

 - b. Name three legal blogs (blawgs) that you visit regularly.
 - 1) _____
 - 2) _____
 - 3) _____

¹ ABA’s 2008 Legal Technology Survey Report – reports that the number of private sector lawyers using free web legal sources has surpassed the number using fee-based)

LAW PRACTICE TECHNOLOGY SKILLS

28. Name a case or litigation management system that you have used in your legal clinic or employment experiences (e.g., CaseMap).

29. Have you had experience using billing system to document your time?

- a. Yes
- b. No