GALE EBOOKS

Searching Best Practices

How your users research is just as important as what they research. While other eBook platforms direct users to title-level results, *Gale eBooks* are designed to cross-search all your eBooks to pinpoint relevant material at the **article/chapter** level. The result? Your users spend less time looking for credible information, and more time diving into it.

BASIC SEARCH

The **Basic Search** at the top of most pages allows users to easily search across all collections and discover results sorted by **Relevance**. *Gale eBooks* uses a proprietary search algorithm to provide relevant results.

ALGORITHM FEATURES:

- **Subject Expansion:** Adds other directly related subject terms to a search.
  - » Ex: "Bitcoin" also searches for "Cryptocurrency". Articles with the original search term are given preference.
  - » Best Practice: Focus your terms on exactly what you need. If you need added support determining terms explore the **Subject Filter** or **Subject Guide Search**.
- **Stemming:** Reduces words to their root forms.
  - » Best Practice: Work from a root word term if possible to expand your results. Search "Cat" instead of "Cats".
- **Boost Field:** Certain fields are given a boost when a match is found in an index.
  - » Search terms will be boosted when they appear in the title.
- **Word Count:** Preference given to content based on word count.
  - » Used to balance preference for longer pieces of content. Use limiters or filters to adjust results.
- **Operator Proximity:** When 2 or more terms are searched, they must be within 4 words of each other.
  - » Only documents with terms in close proximity will be retrieved.

TOPIC FINDER

Topic Finder provides an additional search option which generates a visual representation of search results.
- Organizes results based on the frequency of terms.
  - » Allows you to target keywords and create new research paths.
- Best Practice: Use Topic Finder when you're having trouble coming up with a research topic, want to investigate related topics, or want to narrow your search results.
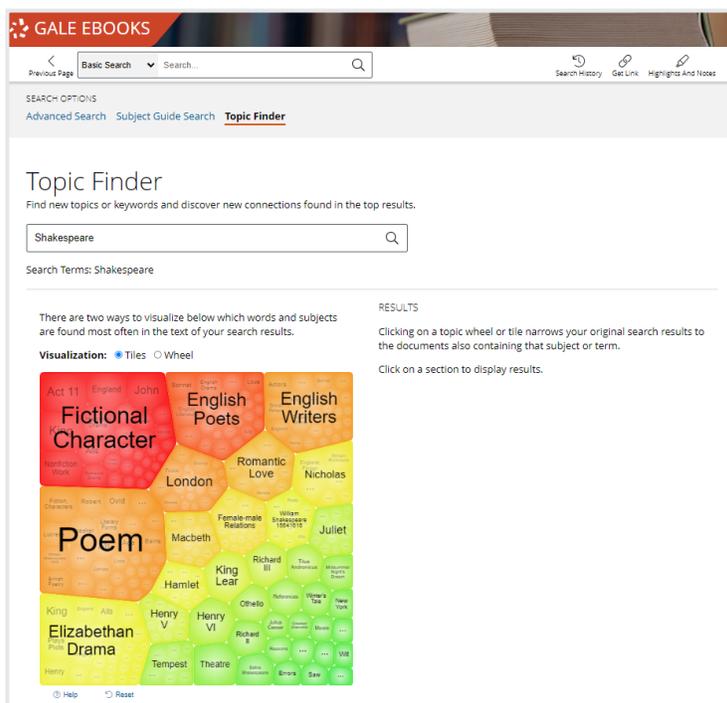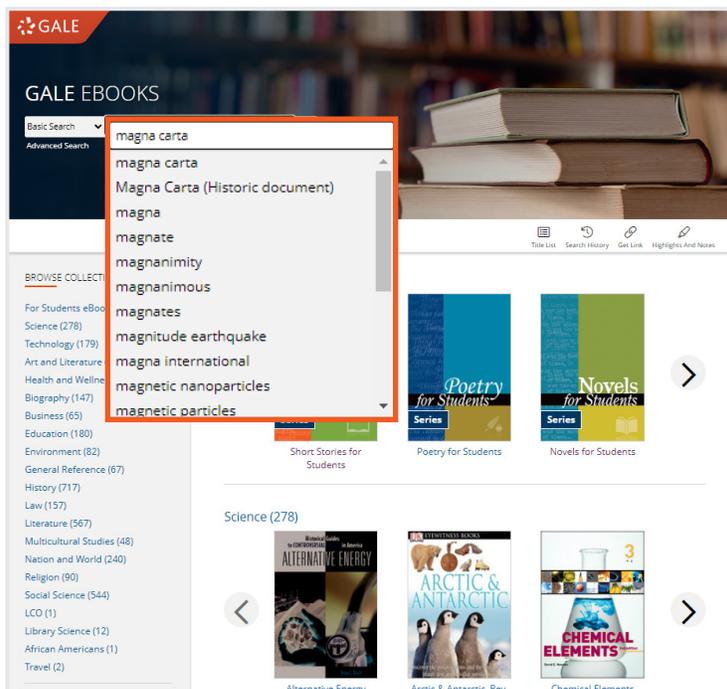
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SEARCH TIPS

STUCK?
Reduce the number of terms you're searching.

AND
"AND" automatically acts as a **Boolean Operator**. If you need to broaden your search, try typing only search terms.

SPECIFIC TERMS
Filter by **Subject** to reveal more precise search terms. Or use the **Subject Guide Search** under **Advanced Search**.

BROAD TOPICS
Pick a subject using **Browse By Collection** on the homepage to view all eBooks related to your topic.

NARROW SEARCH
Search Within allows you to narrow your search to specific eBooks. Just select your collection and search.

RELATED CONTENT
The **Explore Panel** on the right side of a document to view **Related Subjects** and **More Like This** articles.

DID YOU KNOW?

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UNIQUE COLLECTION
Your eBook collection is unique to your institution, so your results will also be unique.

ADDITIONAL TIPS
Additional search tips are found within **Advanced Search**.

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