Revised Exercises for Chapter 9 of Internet and Web Essentials

1. Using the advanced search mode in AltaVista, **http://altavista.com**, and Google, **http://www.google**, look for relevant resources on the following topics. Write down the first two relevant Web pages retrieved by both search engines. Were any the same? Write down the search expression you used for each topic in each database used. For each topic, list any problems you had and list how many times you needed to modify the search expressions in each search engine.
   - The writings of Iris Murdoch
   - Symptoms of schistosomiasis
   - Chronic fatigue syndrome
   - The history of surfboarding

2. Using AltaVista, **http://altavista.com**, find the length of the Golden Gate Bridge by using natural language searching and by using implied Boolean operators. How were your results different? Did either way result in more relevant results?

3. Find information about the Eiffel Tower. Perform the search in Google, **http://www.google.com**, and MetaCrawler, **http://www.metacrawler.com**. Write down the search expressions you used in each database to get the results.

4. Using All the Web, **http://alltheweb.com**, find the periodic table of elements. How many hyperlinks did you find? Compare two of the periodic tables that you found. Which one was easier to use? Why?

5. Perform a search in HotBot, **http://hotbot.lycos.com**, using all of the steps in the basic search strategy on the following topic: the problems encountered in scuba diving. Write down the steps you went through. What problems, if any, did you encounter? Did you need to modify your search strategy? If so, how did you do this?

6. Use All the Web, **http://alltheweb.com**, to find information on baby boomers and social security. How many results did you get? Write down the first two Web page titles and their URLs that appear in the results list. Write down the search expression you used.

7. Using AltaVista, **http://altavista.com**, and Google, **http://www.google.com**, find images of the Shroud of Turin. Describe the steps you took to find these images in each search engine.

8. Using AltaVista's advanced search mode, **http://altavista.com**, look for information on how mad cow disease causes Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease in humans. Keep in mind that mad cow disease is also known as Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy, and incorporate this into your search in the correct way. Write down the search expression that you used. Did the results appear to be relevant to your search request? Read the search tips: AltaVista now DOES NOT require quotation marks around phrases. Write down two of the most relevant titles with their URLs.

9. You are looking for clinical trials designed for sufferers of Gulf War Syndrome. Try to find resources for this information by browsing Yahoo!, **http://www.yahoo.com**, and searching Google, **http://www.google.com.** Describe the search strategies you used in both services. Which tool provided the most relevant information? Hint: When using Yahoo, look for general sites devoted to clinical trials and search those for Gulf War Syndrome.