Sample Exam for the Information Literacy Component of the CIL Exam

Use this exercise to practice your skills and to learn what to expect on the Information Literacy component of the CIL exam. The format of this exercise and the types of skills you'll be asked to demonstrate are very similar to the exam. Use the detailed scoring rubric to see how points are assigned for each task and question you'll be asked to complete.

- During the exam, you'll be given a printed set of instructions. Above, we've provided a sample that you can print out. Use the checkboxes to help you remember to answer each question.
- Always take the time to read through the instructions before you begin. Doing so can save you time and prevent you from making some mistakes.
- This exercise is not timed. When you take this component of the CIL exam, you will be given 2 hours to finish. You may want to time yourself as you do this exercise to find out if you can complete it within 2 hours.
- During the exam, complete as many of the listed questions as you can. If you can't complete a question, skip it and move on to the next one. If time permits, return to uncompleted questions later.
- During the exam, you will be allowed to use your browser program's help menus, but you will not be permitted to get assistance from another person in completing the exam.

Scenario

You have been asked to write a report to give an overview of the history of Hansen's disease (also known as leprosy) in Hawaii from the time of its introduction to the islands to the present day. Your report will be graded in part on the quality of your information sources and on the accurate citing of those sources.

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<th>Evaluating Resources</th>
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Which of these is the best source for **historical information on Hansen's disease in Hawaii**? (Circle the letter of your choice)

☐ 2. Why is this best source? Explain your choice, and refer to at least **two different criteria** you used as the basis of your decision.

☐ 3. Go to this Web site: http://www.vaclib.org/email/leprosy.htm

Rate the credibility of this website. In other words, how **credible** is this website as a source of information about leprosy? (circle one)

(Note: You may find it helpful to explore this website beyond this page in order to make your evaluation.)

Highly Credible | Somewhat Credible | Not Very Credible

☐ 4. Explain how you came to this conclusion. Discuss at least **two different criteria** you used in making your evaluation about the credibility of this website as an information source.

☐ 5. Suppose that you found an interesting passage from a newspaper article that was published in 1897. Because the passage reflects beliefs about leprosy that were common in the late nineteenth century but are now known to be untrue, you could quote a sentence from the article to illustrate how such beliefs have changed.

If you include the quote in your paper, would this newspaper article need to be referenced in your report and cited?

☐ 6. Defend your answer:
7. For your report, you'll need accurate statistics about the number of people in Hawaii were afflicted with leprosy during the last decade or so.

Read through the following approaches and choose the one you believe is the one most likely to get you the needed information: (Select one)

- Search for "leprosy statistics" using the search box on home page of the National Institute of Health's Web site.
- Consult the Health section in the 2001 edition of the statistical reference book known as the State of Hawaii Data Book that is published by the Hawaii state government.
- Look up the article for "Leprosy" in the most recently published edition of the World Book Encyclopedia.
- Type "Hawaii leprosy" into an Internet search engine such as Google.
- Call the Honolulu Advertiser's editorial desk and ask if they know.
- Go to the Barnes and Noble bookstore and browse through the Hawaiian history books.

8. Explain why this approach is better than the others.

Searching Databases

9. Say you wanted to find magazine articles that talked about using the drug thalidomide to treat leprosy, but you'd like to avoid articles that mention thalidomide's well-known role in causing birth defects. Which one of the following search strings is most likely to find articles you want?

- a. leprosy AND thalidomide
- b. leprosy OR thalidomide OR "birth defects"
- c. leprosy AND thalidomide NOT "birth defects"
- d. birth AND defects NOT thalidomide
- e. leprosy AND "drug treatment" NOT "birth defects"
10. *Leprosy* is also known as *Hansen's Disease*. When looking for information on the condition, searching for both names will help ensure you don't miss anything. Write out a single search string to use in a magazine journal database that would find articles using either of the terms:

11. Imagine that you wanted to find a newspaper article published in the *Honolulu Advertiser* or *Honolulu Star Bulletin* since 1995 about the residents of Kalaupapa.

Which of information resources listed on the Windward Community College Library Web site (http://library.wcc.hawaii.edu) would be the most logical to use for your search?

(Note: just write the name of the information resource you would choose.)

12. Use the *Hawaii Voyager Catalog* available from the Windward Community College Library website at http://library.wcc.hawaii.edu to find information on any video recording about Father Damien that's owned by Windward Community College.

Print a page that shows the title of one of the videos.


Print out a citation to the article or the first page of the article.

**Primary vs Secondary Sources**

14. Identify each item below as a Primary or Secondary source by circling “P” for primary or “S” for secondary:

P S The entry for "leprosy" in the *Encyclopedia Britannica*.

P S A letter written by Father Damien of the Kalaupapa leper colony.

P S A written transcript of an interview with a person diagnosed with Hansen's disease.
PS An article in a scholarly journal that reports on a laboratory test of a potential vaccine against leprosy, written by the research scientists who conducted the study.

PS A made-for-TV movie about Father Damien and the leper colony at Kalaupapa.

PS A short article about the Kalaupapa colony in the Hawaiian Airlines’ in-flight magazine Spirit of Aloha.

PS A paragraph in a college history textbook that mentions leprosy during the middle ages.

PS Statistics collected by the Hawaii State Department of Health about the number of cases of leprosy in the state.

PS You’re talking to a guy who had a neighbor who had a great aunt with leprosy.

PS An audio recording made in 1975 of a resident of the Kalaupapa colony in which she tells stories from her life there.

PS A cover story from Time Magazine with an overview of the current status of Hansen’s Disease around the world.

PS An untouched photograph of a person with Hansen’s Disease.

15. Describe a key characteristic that distinguishes a primary source from a secondary source.

16. Each part of a URL has a name. Identify each part of the URL http://www.who.int/lep/lessons.htm by writing each part’s letter next to the name below. The first one is already done for you.

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<tr>
<th>Named Parts of the the URL</th>
<th>Letter of the Matching Part</th>
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1. "Top Level Domain" or Extension  
   D  A  http://

2. "File Name"  
   ____  B  www.who.int

3. "Web Server" or "Host Name"  
   ____  C  who.int

4. "Directory Path"  
   ____  D  .int

5. "Domain Name"  
   ____  E  /lep/

6. "Protocol"  
   ____  F  lessons.htm

17. Go to this Web site: http://www.who.int/lep/

What is the full name (not abbreviation) of the agency directly responsible for this particular webpage on leprosy?

18. What is the full name (not abbreviation) of this agency's parent or sponsoring organization (in other words, what larger organization is this one part of, or what organization is it supported by)?

19. Does this organization and its sponsoring organization have the authority or expertise to write about the subject of leprosy?

20. Defend your answer:

21. Match the description of each fictional website with the extension most likely to appear at the end of its URL.

   Description of a fictional Web site  
   1. The Damien Heritage Foundation, a charity that cares for Hansen's disease patients.

   Letter of the Best Matching Extension  

   Extension  
   _____
2. The **US Naval Hospital Preventive Medicine Unit**, which publishes a guide on health risk management for Navy personnel

3. The **Communicable Disease Division** of the **Florida State Department of Health**, which tracks the incidence of infectious diseases in that state.

4. The **Hansen's Disease Research Institute** at Alabama State University, which conducts original research on leprosy, as well as providing support to researchers elsewhere.

5. The **Natural Health Advisor**, where you can purchase bottles the herb "Gotu Kola", which the Web site claims can be used to treat leprosy.

6. The **British Center for the Study of Genetics**, which is researching the possibility that genetics make some people more at-risk for contracting Hansen's disease.

7. The **Global Partnership for the Eradication of Hansen's Disease**, which links efforts around the world to fight the spread of leprosy.

**Congratulations! You're finished with the exercise.**