

Harnessing Databases – An online database exercise
<http://homepage.mac.com/cohora/computer/db/db2.html>

Directions: First: write the kind of information you can obtain in each of these online databases. Next: use the database to answer the supplementary question(s).

1. EDGAR - _____

List 2 people or activities that would use EDGAR's information.

2. PatFT - _____

Enter your last name. How many hits did your search yield? _____

Give an example of when you might need information From the PatFT database.

What entity maintains the PatFT database? _____

3. IMDb - _____

On the left hand side of the window, there is a popup menu. It offers choices like: All, Titles, People, etc. These are examples of *records or keywords* (underline the appropriate database term) that helps you narrow a search.

4. PLANTS - _____

Click on the PLANT of the week. You will see info offered on Symbol, Group, Family, Growth Habit. They are examples of _____ (enter the appropriate database term)

5. U.S. Gazetteer - _____

Enter the appropriate data and write your query results: _____

Now enter Washington in the name field. Search. Look at the number of records.

How is the use of the keyword - state important in your search?

6. Registry Whois - _____

Enter si.edu - what organization owns that domain name? _____

7. Bartleby.com - _____

How would the resources available in this database be useful to you when you are giving a speech?

8. OneLook - _____

How many resources can be accessed through this database search engine? _____

Look up "phat". How many resources list it? _____

TAI (Think About It) - Look up "phat" in a print dictionary. I bet it is not listed. What are two advantages that a digital dictionary database has over a printed dictionary database?

9. dmoz - Open Directory Project - _____

Is your school listed in the directory? _____

10. Calorie Counter Database _____

Does this database actually count calories? _____

What professionals would find it useful in their work? _____

11. CharityNavigator _____

Look up an organization you know. _____

How would the information impact your decision to participate? _____
