Information Seeking Process

1. Define the Problem
   a. What information do you need?
   b. What questions need answered?
   c. Determine what terms to use to describe topic (search terms or keywords).
   d. Do you need to limit your topic (is topic too broad)?

2. Develop a Strategy for finding the Information
   a. Find an Overview (encyclopedias)
   b. Find Current information (magazines, newspapers and journal articles)
   c. Find more comprehensive information in Books (library catalog)
   d. Consider other possible sources

3. Locate the Information
   a. Books - Library Catalog
   b. Articles - Periodical Indexes & Databases
   c. Internet Resources - Supplemental information

4. Evaluate and Select Research Materials
   a. Is information Reliable/Credible?
   b. Is information Objective/Bias?
   c. Is information Current?
   d. Do I need more or different info?

5. Use the Information
   Cite Sources Correctly

Derived from BYU Library Information Network’s “Don’t Get Caught on the Web” web site http://www.lib.byu.edu/~luiresstrat2.html

TQ: engl 101 infoseeking steps graphical