

Minnesota Certification Training
MnLINK – May 2005

Purpose:

The purpose of this self-directed exercise is to help familiarize you to the various terms, searches, and functions in the MnLINK Gateway.

1. Based on what you have heard, define the following terms:

Federated Search Engine:

Z39.50: (Check out <http://www.niso.org/z39.50/z3950.html>)

ILS System:

SIP Authentication:

2. Using the following link, enter into the MnLINK Gateway test environment. Note: this is not the live program – it is simply a place to test various tools with the MnLINK Gateway.

<http://theorbo.msus.edu:8081/zportal/zengine?VDXaction=ZSearchSimple>

Sign In: test1

Password: test1

Pick-up Location: My Library

Make Sure the Current Profile reads: All Catalogs for MnLINK Gateway [shared]

Once you have signed in, answer the following questions.

- a) Which libraries require a password during the sign in process?

- b) My Library is the Gilbert Public Library. What regional library group am I in?

- c) Using the basic search box, type in the terms: Minnesota Hockey. What is the first title that appears on your results page?

- d) Select “Details” of you first search result. Who is the author(s) of the title you have selected?

- e) Select “Search Results” on the blue navigation bar. This should return you to your results list. From the results list, save three (3) of the records from the list. What response does the system give you when you have saved an item?

- f) Select “Saved List” on the blue navigation bar. Looking at your saved list, what can you do with the records you have selected?

- g) Try to e-mail one of your saved records to yourself. What format can you send the record in?

- h) Select “Search Results” on the blue navigation bar. This should return you to your results list. Choose an item from your list and “Get It.” From the returned page, what do you need to do in order cancel your item in the future?

- i) Select “Request Via ILL”. Review the request screen and Submit your request. What system identification number has been assigned to your request?

- j) Click on the “My Requests” link on your confirmation page. Using the dropdown menus, what are the four ways you can sort your requests? In what order can you have your requests appear? Select your settings and hit “Search”. Review the requests you have submitted.

- k) Select “Advanced Search”. In the advance search mode, find the title The DaVinci Code.

- l) Return the “Advanced Search”. Search for the title Zelda by the author Fitzgerald. Leave the operator as “And”. Review the results. Try to figure out where your search terms are appearing in the record.

- m) Select “Basic Search” on the blue navigation bar. Using the “Current Profile” dropdown list, select “ELM – Full Text Newspapers [Shared]”. You will see the Selected Libraries change to only reflect the ELM newspapers. In the search box type, Iraq. Look through your search results.

At this point you should simply spend some time trying out various searches. Note that search results do not always appear “logical”. Look at the detailed records and try to determine why your results appear as they do.

Possible searches:

“acid rain” (with quotations – the terms should appear as a phrase)

Langston Hughes

Advanced Search:

- 1. Title = Mansfield Park
Operator = Or
Author = Austen**
- 2. ISBN=1594860017**