Database Searches Activity Sheet

In this activity sheet, you will be able to put into practice your understanding of how to use and collect research from a database. Remember, there is more than one database that you are able to use. Don’t be hesitant to explore them.

Directions: Choose a topic that you are interested in or passionate about, then go onto the John Tyler Website and navigate your way to the Libraries database. Select a database to start your research on and find one scholarly article, periodical, book, and newspaper article related to your topic. Then, once you have found one for each publication answer the following questions below.

1. **Scholarly Article:** How relevant is the article to today’s date? What characteristics does an article have that other publication types don’t?

2. **Periodical:** How did you find the periodical? Did you use the advanced search to narrow down your choices?
3. **Book:** What database search engine did you use? Try a different database and find another book related to your topic. What are some differences between finding a book on one database rather than the other?

4. **Newspaper:** When was the newspaper published? What value does the newspaper have to your topic? In other words, what is the significance of it?