Library Lab

The Problem:

Your task is to write an authoritative review of the book *Your Inner Fish* and make an informed recommendation to readers regarding the quality and value of this book. The first step in this process is to search out, identify, and read the primary literature related to the topics in the book.

This assignment can be completed on your own time. It is due at the start of your next lab. Follow the procedures listed below:

1. **Visit the Library:** Attend one of the sessions with the Life Sciences Librarian, Mike Goates. You can sign up for one of these sessions at the URL provided by your TA. He will introduce you to the resources available at the library for accessing the primary literature. For more information, visit [http://guides.lib.byu.edu/bio130](http://guides.lib.byu.edu/bio130). Complete the following tasks based on what you learn here:
   
a. Choose an article from a popular media source (e.g., Google News, CNN, KSL, Yahoo News, Popular Science, Science Daily, or Nature News). It should be about a topic from the book. This type of article is considered a **secondary source** as it reports on the findings of someone else. Print out the first page to be handed in with your bibliography and write the web page from where you accessed it on top of the page.

   b. Once you choose the media article that you want to research further, you need to find and read the primary article that spurred the media article. A **primary source** is reporting results that the author actually gathered. In the media article it will normally reference the name of a researcher involved or the name of the journal in which the primary article was published. There are several methods to find this article—your Life Sciences Librarian will help you learn how.

   c. Your next task is to find 5 articles (primary sources) related to this article. The best way to go about this is to think of things in the article that were puzzling to you or that you wanted to learn a little bit more about. Within the article, it will cite other articles to justify their claims. These are the articles that can give you further information. Their citations can be found at the end of the article.

   d. Your last task is to find a review article on your topic. Follow the instructions given by your Life Science Librarian. A review article is considered a **secondary source**, similar to a textbook.

2. **Read and Write at Home:** Once you have found your 7 articles, read them (you may consider printing them out or emailing yourself a PDF for future use with your paper). You will prepare an annotated bibliography. This consists of the citation, in APA
Format, followed by one paragraph that identifies the author(s)' main research hypothesis, how they chose to test this hypothesis, what predictions they made, what their actual results were, and what conclusions they were able to draw (i.e., a summary of the science behind the article). You will type this up in no more than two pages.

3. **Visit the Writing Center:** All you have to do is take a walk past the BYU Writing Center location. You do not have to actually have your bibliography reviewed. However, this is a resource that I strongly encourage you to use as you prepare your final paper for this class, so it is nice to get familiar with it now! They are located in 3340 HBLL. For future reference, to make an appointment, visit the following website: [http://writingcenter.byu.edu/](http://writingcenter.byu.edu/)

4. **Items to be handed in at your next lab:**
   a. The first page of the media article **with** the webpage printed/written on the top.
   b. An annotated bibliography of your seven sources (i.e., the primary source behind the media article, the five supporting primary sources, and the one review article).

**Learning Outcomes that this assignment satisfies:**
- To be able to utilize databases to search for primary literature
- To identify and distinguish types of sources
- To explore the library and the Writing Center