

Your High School Seniors Are Our University Freshmen

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Information Literacy Assessment Tools

TRAILS – Tools for Real-Time Assessment of Information Literacy Skills (Kent State University). TRAILS is a knowledge assessment with multiple-choice questions targeting a variety of information literacy skills based on 3rd, 6th, 9th, and 12th grade standards. An easily accessible and flexible tool for school librarians and teachers to identify strengths and weaknesses in the information-seeking skills of their students. There is no charge for using TRAILS. (From the TRAILS website)

Project SAILS – Standardized Assessment of Information Literacy Skills (Kent State University). Project SAILS has helped faculty and academic librarians better understand the information literacy skills of their students since 2006. These data-driven insights inform instructors of weak areas, guide course instruction, affirm growth following instruction, and prepare students to be successful in learning and life. Charge of \$5 per student for the Cohort test and \$6 per student for the Individual Scores and Build Your Own Test.

Articles

Moorefield-Lang, H. & Meier, C. (2013). What we learned along the way: Librarian experiences from K–12 and how they aid in university library instruction. *College & Undergraduate Libraries*, 20(2), 197-203.

***The remaining resources on this list were adapted from the handout, *Top Ten Topics and Trends (2015)* by Dr. Audrey Church, President of the American Association of School Librarians (AASL).**

Boyer, B. L. (2015). Collaborative instructional design for college readiness. *Knowledge Quest*, 44(2), 60-65.

“In our quest to improve our senior research project, a team comprised of the school librarian and members of the language arts faculty worked steadily from fall of 2012 through spring of 2013 to design and develop a student-centered senior capstone project that incorporated critical information-fluency skills with reading nonfiction, along with metacognitive reflection.”

Head, A. J. (2013). How freshmen conduct course research once they enter college. Retrieved from http://projectinfolit.org/images/pdfs/pil_2013_freshmenstudy_fullreport.pdf

“This paper presents findings about the challenges today’s college freshmen face, and the information-seeking strategies they develop, use, and adapt as they make the transition from high school to college and begin to complete college-level research assignments.”

Riedling, A. M. (2007). *An educator’s guide to information literacy: What every high school senior needs to know*. Santa Barbara, CA: Libraries Unlimited.

Includes ideas for lessons, formative assessments, and suggestions for integrating information literacy skills into the curriculum.

Stewart, K. W. (2015). College readiness: We are not alone! *School Library Monthly*, 31(6), 30-32.

“Many college and university instructors agree that there is a universal gap in what incoming college freshmen bring with them when it comes to basic information and literacy skills, and what is required in their college-level courses. I have heard this expressed by many academic librarians. There needs to be conversations between librarians in all

Varlejs, J., & Stec, E. (2013). Factors affecting students’ information literacy as they transition from high school to college. *School Library Research*, 17. Retrieved from

http://www.ala.org/aasl/sites/ala.org.aasl/files/content/aaslpubsandjournals/slr/vol17/SLR_FactorsAffecting_V17.pdf

“Despite the considerable attention paid to the need to increase the information literacy of high school students in preparation for the transition to college, poor research skills still seem to be the norm. To gain insight into the problem, library instruction environments of nineteen high schools were explored.”

Video

BAYA Librarians. (2014). *What should high school teachers teach about research?* Retrieved from <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s0wtuaoloVU>

“Public, school, and academic librarians are all invited to use this video to help students and faculty understand what is expected of students at the college level. The video contains college students, instructors, and librarians talking about issues such as: Developing a research question; finding information; evaluating information sources; analyzing information; synthesizing information; getting help from librarians; and time management.”