LIRT News
June 1989
Volume 11, Number 4

LIRT’S Top Twenty for 1988

An annotated bibliography prepared by the Continuing Education Committee, Library Instruction Round Table.


Describes an online catalog which forces students to make informed choices throughout the search process. Teaching the use of this catalog focuses on the critical thinking process necessary for formulating and researching a topic.


Argues that there is no uniformly accepted definition of critical thinking. The ability to think critically may involve four developmental stages. Discusses implications for user education and teacher training.


Describes a project at Carmel (Indiana) High School to teach students end-user searching on WilSearch. Includes student worksheets and logs.


Reports on the successful outcome at the University of Toronto Libraries in setting up library visits and instructional sessions for the print-handicapped.


BL librarians can teach college students to evaluate materials in the library and have a responsibility to do so. This paper gives nine points that students can use to evaluate the materials they read.

Engeldinger describes the approach to BI used at his library: a thirty-minute lecture followed by a twenty-minute exercise. Content emphasis is on searching the catalog and periodical indexes by keyword and by controlled vocabulary.


Theorizes on the future role of library literacy and library instruction in the year 2000. Envisions an innovative library with different media but still having the same messages to impart -- education and training of its users.


The authors argue that in teaching, librarians should concentrate on a small number of short-term competencies needed for an immediate library assignment, using a combination of brief lectures and active student involvement.


Reports on a study of the information seeking behavior of users of several automated reference sources. A model for library user education that considers automated information retrieval is presented.


Description of a program at the Deerfield (Illinois) Public Library to provide library instruction to a junior high school class in cooperation with the teacher and the school library. 6-L1RT News/June 1989


Reviews educational literature on the critical thinking/problem solving approach to learning. Summarizes two activities designed to teach critical thinking and research skills in the context of social studies classes in fifth and sixth grades.


Describes a program designed to teach critical thinking skills. Evaluation showed that students receiving classroom presentation scored higher on a post-test than
students using the computer-assisted instruction although CAI was the preferred mode.


Examines the response of academic libraries to A Nation at Risk and other reports that followed it. Includes articles from Ohio State University and Washington State University.


Discusses library anxiety among college undergraduates in the context of students' previous library experiences. Describes a program to deal with it.


Describes two CAI tutorials developed at Purdue University which teach use of periodical indexes how to locate journals and use of an online catalog.


The 14th annual review of library instruction literature.


The author describes a program in which she taught students to think about their own research using a daily journal.


Brief article outlining issues faced by the new instructor of a credit course in bibliographic instruction. Covered are clear course objectives, the components of a theoretical framework, the value of hands on experience, and realistic expectations.


Describes the planning, production, and use of video in the University of California, San Diego's Undergraduate Library instructional program.

Prepared by the Association of College and Research Libraries, Education and Behavioral Science Section (EBSS). Addresses unique user needs within a traditional BI context. A supplement to the 1984 “BI Tip Sheet for Academic Administrators and Support Staff.”