

You might wonder if you need a synonym for every keyword or phrase in your research question or statement. There are definitely some words and phrases that don't have synonyms. Look at the phrases on the left. Civil war, George Bush, and Niagara Falls really don't have synonyms. So you don't need to identify a synonym for these phrases. Since you are using phrases in this case, be sure to put them in quotation marks. Look at the keyword on the right, kid. This might be how we would search Google, and we would find plenty of results. But when we are looking for books or articles, we need to consider how the author of a book or an article would write. What words would they use? A scholarly article author would likely not use the word "kid." But he or she would likely use synonyms like child or youth or teen or adolescent. One final tip. You can find additional sources by using a search trick called truncation. If you take the root of word like 'teen' and put an asterisk at the end (\*) you will retrieve results containing the words teen, teens (plural), teenager, and teenagers (plural). Another example would be child\* with an asterisk (\*), will search for child or children. As always, let us know if you need any help by clicking on "Get Help" on the library's website.