

## *Boolean Searching Task Analysis*

***For an example, please see*** <https://libguides.mit.edu/c.php?g=175963&p=1158594>

### List of Tasks:

1. Introduction of Boolean
  - 1.1 What Boolean is
  - 1.2 How Boolean is used in searching
2. Introduction of various Boolean Operators
  - 2.1. AND
    - 2.1.1. Indication of what the AND operator does to our searching
    - 2.1.2. Example of using AND
  - 2.2. OR
    - 2.2.1. Indication of what the OR operator does to our searching
    - 2.2.2. Example of using OR
  - 2.3. NOT
    - 2.3.1. Indication of what the NOT operator does to our searching
    - 2.3.2. Example of using NOT

## Breakdown of Tasks:

Module	Specific Task	Assessment
<b>1 Main topic</b>	Introduction of Boolean	
<b>1.1 Subtopic (Level 2 heading)</b>	Why we use Boolean in searching	We use Boolean searching to link similar terms/concepts/ideas. Instruct the search tool what to search for.
<b>1.2 Subtopic (Level 2 heading)</b>	How people use Boolean everyday informally	Think about what you would like to order from a fast food restaurant. We are interested in a main part of a meal, a side, and a drink. For the drink Water Cola Gingerale Rootbeer Orange Juice Milk For the side Salad French Fries Onion rings Sweet potato fries For the main Burger Chicken Burger Veggie Burger Toppings for main Mustard Tomato Ketchup Cheese Hot Peppers Relish Tomato slices Raw onions  Think of all of the different combinations we could get. Drinks, including nothing, there are seven options. Sides, including nothing, there are five options

		<p>Main, including nothing there are three options</p> <p>Toppings, including nothing there are eight options</p> <p>So, with the various options there could be over 800 combinations.</p> <p>However, we want to walk away with one meal reflecting what we would like to eat today.</p>
<b>2 Main topic (Level 1 heading)</b>	Boolean operators	
<b>2.1 Subtopic (Level 2 heading)</b>	AND	<p>Why would we use this term</p> <p>Use “<b>AND</b>” to combine your concepts in a search statement</p> <p><b>AND</b> searches for both words together</p>
<b>2.1.1 Sub-subtopic (Level 3 heading)</b>	How does the AND operator affect our results	<p>How does the use of this term change our results</p> <p><b>AND</b> narrows your search and tells search tool that both concepts must appear in the results</p> <p>For example, we want something from each category (drink, side, main with toppings).</p>
<b>2.2 Subtopic (Level 2 heading)</b>	OR	<p>Why would we use this term in our food selection.</p> <p>Use “<b>OR</b>” to combine your synonyms or similar terms</p> <p><b>OR</b> searches for either of the words (synonyms and/or similar/related terms)</p>
<b>2.2.1 Sub-subtopic (Level 3 heading)</b>	How does the OR operator affect our results	<p>How does the use of this term change our results</p> <p><b>OR</b> broadens your search and tells the search tool that either concepts may appear in the results</p>

		In the case of drinks, we have several options. If we do not care what we get, it could be any of the options. Water OR Cola OR Gingerale OR Rootbeer OR Orange Juice OR Milk OR nothing
<b>2.3 Subtopic (Level 2 heading)</b>	NOT	Use “ <b>NOT</b> ” to exclude certain words from your search
<b>2.3.1 Sub-subtopic (Level 3 heading)</b>	How does the NOT operator affect our results	How does the use of this term change our results <b>NOT</b> really narrows your search. We want tomato slices, but not ketchup on our burger, we would use NOT to specify tomato NOT ketchup to get only tomato slices on the burger. Be careful with NOT! If you want tomato ketchup on your burger, but not tomato slices, using NOT tomato would eliminate both tomato slices and tomato ketchup.
<b>2.3.2 Sub-subtopic (Level 3 heading)</b>	How does the NOT operator affect our results	Why would we use this term In our example above, if we have a food allergy, we would want to make sure it is not part of our meal (for example, if we have severe lactose issues you might even need to avoid the bun around our main).
<b>2.3.3 Sub-subtopic (Level 3 heading)</b>	Some potential dangers of the NOT operator	<b>NOT</b> is very powerful. With full-text searching especially NOT could exclude relevant content that only casually includes the terms you have excluded