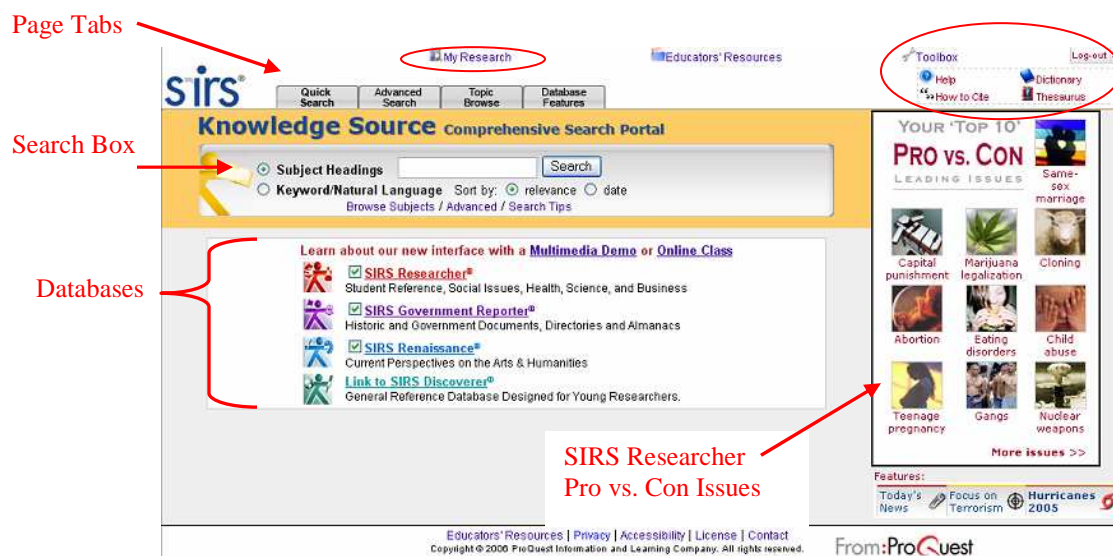


SIRS Knowledge Source is a search portal that will allow you to search multiple SIRS Databases at once. The SIRS family of databases are ProQuest products. The searchable databases include: SIRS Researcher, SIRS Government Documents and SIRS Renaissance. Younger researchers, those in the primary grades, can find a link to SIRS Discoverer.

Let's take a look at the interface:



The **Page Tabs** will allow you to navigate to different pages. The “Topic Browse” tab will lead you to a subject list of topics for the three databases. “Database Features” will give you a list of interest oriented features including suggested research topics.

Begin searching by typing your search term(s) into the **Search Box**. Students may get better results if they begin searching using the “Keyword/Natural Language” option. If you would like to see a list of subject headings used in the databases, click on “Browse Subjects.”

You may choose to search the three **Databases** all at once. To remove a specific database from the search, click the check box next to the title of the database. Later, you may add the database back to your search by clicking on the check box again. Notice that the check (✓) will reappear.

My Research will allow you to compile a list of articles, citations and websites. The **Toolbox** is a great resource to find help with many of the problems researchers face: citations using MLA, APA and Turabian style, helpful guides for writing research papers, debate outlines and creating PowerPoint presentations. **SIRS Researcher Pro vs. Con Issues** is a quick link to articles covering popular issues.

Let's begin searching. Type a search term in the **Search Box** and click search. In the example below, I used "Gaza" and selected "Keyword/Natural Language." Take a look at the results list:

Your results are listed in categories. You may view all, or view results based on type. To view a list of only newspaper articles, click the "Newspapers" hyperlink.

The screenshot shows the SIRS search interface. At the top, there are navigation links for Home, Back, My Research, and Educator's Resources. Below these are search options: Quick Search, Advanced Search, Topic Browse, and Database Features. A search box contains the term "Gaza" and a search button. Below the search box is a table of result categories:

All Articles	513	354	223	8	12	406
Newspapers	Magazines	Gov't Docs	Primary Sources	Reference	Graphics	

Below the table are options for "Details: Show | Hide", "Sort: Relevance | Date | Lexile", and "Legend: Graphics". A checkbox is checked for "Check items and select 'Update Tagged List' below." The results list includes:

- [Country Reports on Human Rights Practices for 2001: Israel and the Occupied Territories](#)
Country Reports on Human Rights Practices for 2001 March 4, 2002, Lexile Score: 1310-292K, SIRS Government Reporter
Summary: "The Country Reports on Human Rights Practices cover internationally recognized individual, civil, political, and worker rights, as set forth in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. These rights include freedom from torture or other cruel, inhuman, or degrading treatment or punishment; from prolonged detention without charges; from disappearance or clandestine detention; and from other flagrant violations of the right to life, liberty, and the security of the person." (Country Reports on Human Rights Practices for 2001) Human rights violations in Israel and the Occupied Territories during 2001 are examined.
Descriptors: [human rights](#), [West Bank](#), [Human rights, Gaza Strip](#), [Human rights, Israel](#), [Israel, Politics and government](#)
- [Gaza: Contested Crossroads](#)
Saudi Aramco World Sept./Oct. 1994, Lexile Score: 1190-26K, SIRS Renaissance
Summary: "Much of Gaza's historical turbulence came about because the city sits on a geographical edge. Gaza's low, circular hill, now barely detectable amid urban sprawl, rose for ages like a gentle, topographic treacher in the southwest corner of ancient Palestine. From here the city served the most heavily traveled trade route linking Central Asia and Arabia with Egypt and Africa, called the Via Maris by Romans and the Lotus Road by Egyptians. For traders, pilgrims and conquerors in both directions, Gaza lay, crucially, at the eastern edge of the Sinai Desert, which took eight days to cross by caravan." (ARAMCO WORLD) A brief history of Gaza, "one of the oldest, most economically and militarily prized cities in the Middle East," and its crucial geographical placement as a trading and pilgrimage center are viewed against an ancient and turbulent history of conquerors. A timeline detailing the city's conquerors and rulers through the ages is provided.
Descriptors: [Commerce](#), [Conquerors](#), [Cities and towns, Middle East](#), [Gaza Strip](#), [Islam](#)
- [Country Reports on Human Rights Practices for 1999: Israel and the Occupied Territories](#)
Country Reports on Human Rights Practices for 1999 Feb. 25, 2000, Lexile Score: 1320-182K, SIRS Government Reporter
Summary: "The Country Reports on Human Rights Practices cover internationally recognized individual, civil, political, and worker rights, as set forth in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. These rights include freedom from torture or other cruel, inhuman, or degrading treatment or punishment; from prolonged detention without charges; from disappearance or clandestine detention; and from other flagrant violations of the right to life, liberty, and the security of the person." (COUNTRY REPORTS ON HUMAN RIGHTS PRACTICES FOR 1999) Human rights violations in Israel and the Occupied Territories during 1999 are examined.
Descriptors: [human rights](#), [Gaza Strip](#), [Israel, Politics and government](#), [Human rights, Israel](#), [Human rights, West Bank](#)

To view the document click the hyperlink.

Click the check box to the left of any document you would like to add to "My Research" and click the "Update Tagged List" button at the bottom of the list. Descriptors are subject guide hyperlinks that will lead you to additional results of the given topic.

Visit your "My Research" page to print, email, save or find a citation for the articles you have checked.