Library Research Assignment

Assignment Instructions: For this assignment you will be applying what you’ve learned from this module on locating support materials for your speeches. You will be using the online library through HACC for this assignment. You will need to locate the library guide for our class by clicking on the link provided in this module or by going to hacc.edu, click library, scroll down to lib guides/click, then search my last name Dosch. You will see our COMM101 Lib Guide and click on it.

Please answer the following questions and submit your answer sheet to the assignment dropbox. You can use this sheet to answer your questions. Just be sure to save it to your computer before you try to upload it to the dropbox.

1. At some point throughout your research for this assignment you will think of a question about library resources. When you do please locate the blue ASK! button to the right of our lib guide. Please tell me what you asked and what response you received. Tell me if you think this feature will be helpful when you are doing research off-campus?

**NOTE: During the hours when our campuses are open and the libraries are staffed, HACC librarians are available to answer the questions through live chat. Outside of those hours (overnight and weekends) the chat service connects the students with the AskHere PA chat service. This service is staffed by librarians across the country and even some across the pond in England. When the chat is “offline” you just need to click the AskHere PA link and you will be directed to a live person!

2. What can you find in the Getting Started tab of our lib guide? Please watch the video and provide an explanation of why we use library databases?

3. Under the Articles tab please locate the online Encyclopedias and Dictionaries section. Click on one of the databases and do a quick search on any topic. Please write what topic your researched, what database you used, and what type of information you found using this database.

4. Under the Articles tab using the same topic you used in the previous question, find Academic Search Complete. Do a search of your topic using the “key word” search function. How many articles did you find? Now filter your results to just journals. Did that narrow down your search results?

5. Under the Articles tab click on the Opposing Viewpoints database. What kinds of sources can you find here? For what speech do you think this database will be most useful?

6. In a few sentences explain the difference between scholarly and popular sources? Please reference the Scholarly or Popular tab to find your answer.
7. When using databases, one of the AMAZING parts is that you can gather information across several mediums in one place! (magazines, books, journals, podcasts, encyclopedias etc.) Tell me the different mediums you can find by researching your topic in EITHER the ProQuest OR Academic Search Complete Database under the Articles tab. Please list the different types ( mediums) of sources you find. *Hint: they are usually listed on the left side column and you can filter your results based on the type of source you want.

8. When evaluating websites, you should use the CRAAP test. What does CRAAP stand for?

9. How can using a Google Advanced Search Page help when researching your topic through Google?

10. We will use MLA/APA style for citing sources in your works cited page for this class. Please find the MLA 8th Edition Style Guide (Valencia College) in the Citations tab of our lib guide. You will be taken to the Valencia college website. Click on either MLA OR APA Citation of Electronic Sources. Then select ONE source type i.e. library database (A-Z), website/other electronic source etc. What did you find? Will this be helpful when you are citing sources in a works cited page?