Assessment in Instruction:
Identifying Disconnect

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Developing a Research Question

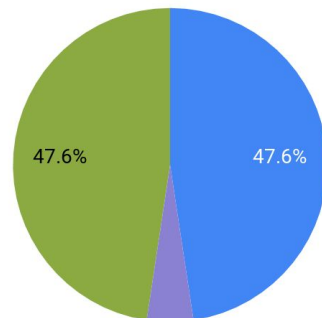**Knowledge Practice:** Determine an appropriate scope of investigation
Disposition: Consider research as open-ended exploration and engagement with information

Standard failures:
1. Too broad
2. Closed ended
3. Vague
4. Biased perspective/based on logical fallacy
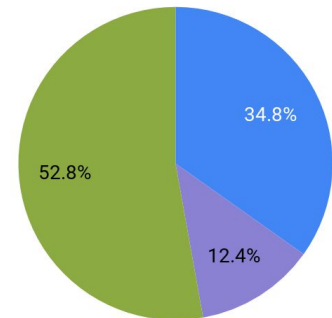5. Too narrow
6. Misunderstood question

Research Question: Seated

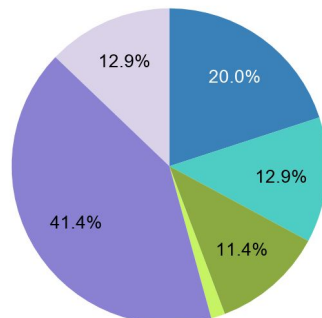- Failure of Scope
- Failure of Argument
- Correct

47.6% 47.6%

Research Question: Online

- Failure of Scope
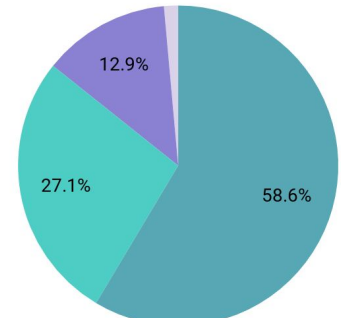- Failure of Argument
- Correct

34.8% 52.8% 12.4%

Research Question: Scope

- Too broad (online)
- Too broad (seated)
- Too narrow (online
- Too narrow (seated)
- Correct (online)
- Correct (Seated)

20.0% 12.9% 11.4% 41.4% 12.9%

Research Question: Argument

- Subjective (online)
- Subjective (seated)
- Objective (online)
- Objective (seated)

58.6% 27.1% 12.9%
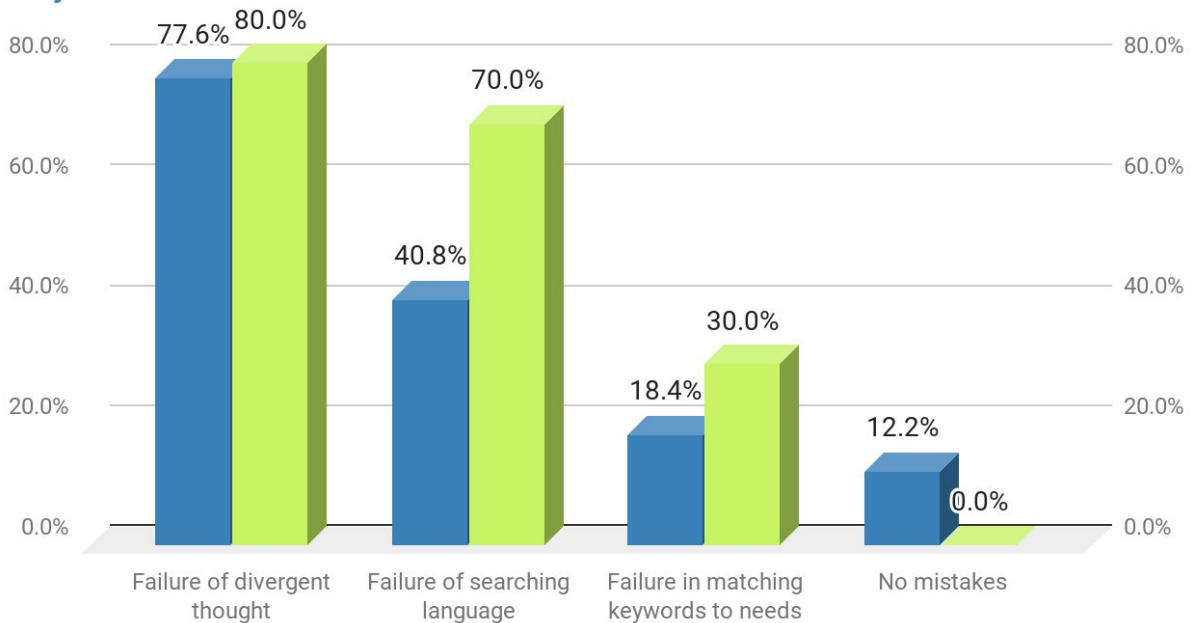
Keyword Choice

Knowledge Practices:
- Utilize divergent (e.g., brainstorming) and convergent (e.g., selecting the best source) thinking when searching
- Use different types of searching language (e.g., controlled vocabulary, keywords, natural language) appropriately
- Match information needs and search strategies to appropriate search tools

Disposition: Exhibit mental flexibility and creativity

Standard failures:
1. Did not develop multiple keywords for main concepts
2. Developed unrelated keywords for a single concept
3. Repeated terms for different main concepts
4. Used non-scholarly/significant natural language
5. Left out search terms for a main concept from research question
6. Used stop words

Keyword Choice

Chart data:
- Failure of divergent thought: 77.6%, 80.0%
- Failure of searching language: 40.8%, 70.0%
- Failure in matching keywords to needs: 18.4%, 30.0%
- No mistakes: 12.2%, 0.0%
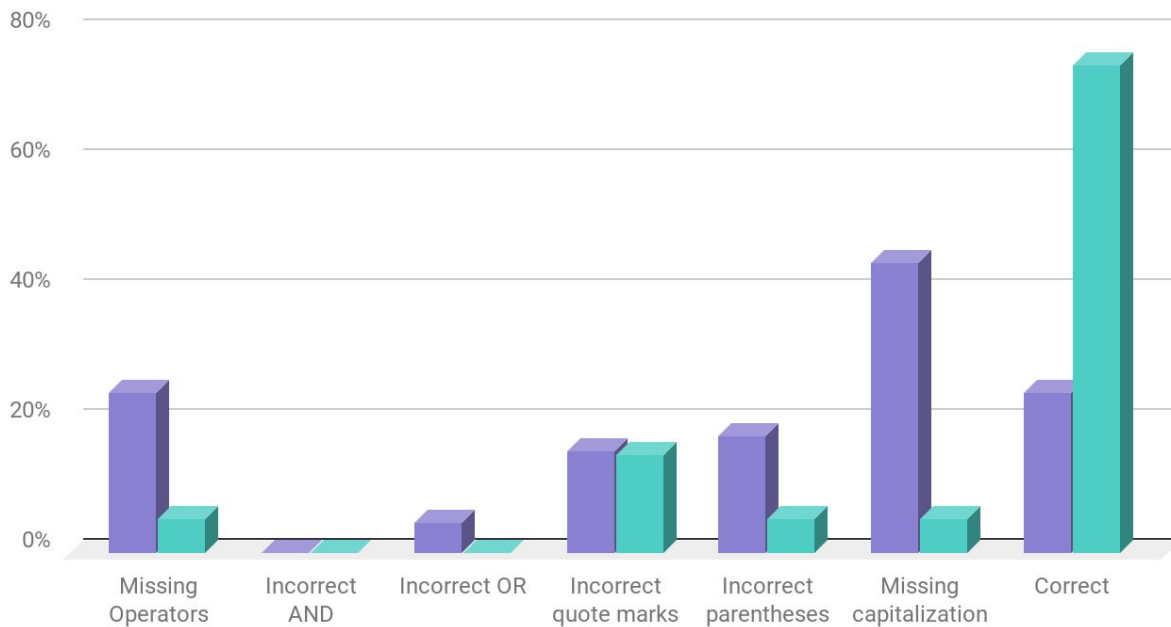
Boolean Operators

Knowledge Practices:
- Use different types of searching language (e.g., controlled vocabulary, keywords, natural language) appropriately
- Match information needs and search strategies to appropriate search tools

Disposition: Exhibit mental flexibility and creativity

Standard failures:
1. Incorrect capitalization
2. Missing operators
3. Incorrect quote marks
4. Incorrect parentheses
5. Incorrect use of OR

Boolean Operators

Content Types

Knowledge Practice: Assess the fit between an information product's creation process and a particular information need
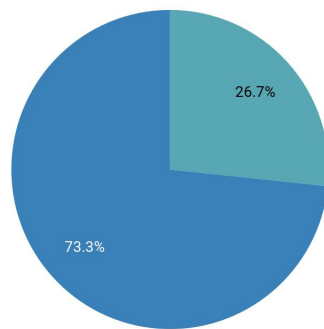
Dispositions:
- Realize that information sources vary greatly in content and format and have varying relevance and value
- Maintain an open mind and a critical stance
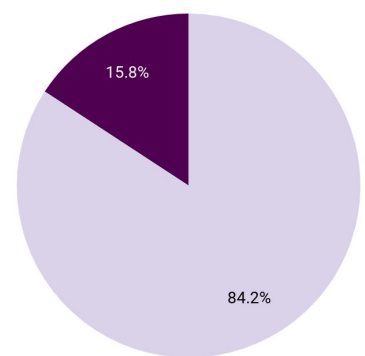
Peer Review:

Peer Review: Online
- Selected Peer Review
- Did not select Peer Review

26.7%

73.3%

Peer Review: Seated
- Selected Peer Review
- Did not select Peer Review

15.8%

84.2%

Common Content Choices
1. Journal Article
2. News Article
3. Book
4. Website
5. Other

Content Type

Journal article	News article	Website	Book	Other
60% / 84%	50% / 26%	8% / 0%	22% / 11%	7% / 0%