Using Linguistics Language and Behaviour Abstracts

- Linguistics Language and Behaviour Abstracts (LLBA) indexes and abstracts articles in the study of language, including phonetics, phonology, morphology, syntax and semantics and descriptive, historical, comparative, theoretical and geographical linguistics.
- It has a built in thesaurus which allows you to select controlled vocabularly terms in order to search for articles, conference papers etc. You can build searches up alongside your own keywords to create a comprehensive search.

LLBA Advanced Search

**STEP 1:**

Go to Library search [https://libsearch.ncl.ac.uk](https://libsearch.ncl.ac.uk) and search for Linguistics Language and Behaviour Abstracts.

**Click on the database title.** Scroll down to you find the ‘resource available at’ option and follow the links through to open the database.

**STEP 2:**

You will see that there is a basic search box. You can use this, but we advise that you use the advanced search as you get more functionality with it.

**Click on ‘advanced search’ at the top of the page.** Notice there are now two search boxes which allow you to join two search terms together should you wish. You will also see the option to add a row. This lets you build up a search with more than two search concepts.

**You will also see lots of different options in order to limit your search.** This allows you from the start of your search to not only limit your search to peer-reviewed articles, but you can also refine by date, language, source etc at this stage as well. **Our general advice is not to limit your search too much at the start.** Instead it is better to see what results you get and then place limits on your search afterwards if needs be.

**STEP 3:**

Imagine you want to conduct a search to find articles on translation methods and strategies and the Chinese language. **You could either type in your own keywords or you can add an index term from the Thesaurus.** We are going to do both.

**Click on Thesaurus.**
STEP 4:

Type translation into the thesaurus. It then produces a list of subject headings. You will see that it shows a tree structure of the broader terms and also the narrower terms.

Click on translation methods and strategies.

You will notice an ‘explode button’ next to it. If ‘translation methods and strategies’ had narrower terms underneath and we wanted to include those in our search as well, you would tick the explode box and this would do it for you automatically.

There are no narrower terms this time, so just tick the box next to ‘Translation methods and strategies’ and then click ‘add to search’ button at the bottom of the screen. This will then bring you back to the advanced search page and it will have automatically put ‘translation methods and strategies’ into the box for you.

STEP 5:

You may then decide that actually a different way for saying translation methods and strategies, could be “translation techniques” and you would also like to include this in your search. We know that this wasn’t a term in the thesaurus as when we typed ‘translation’ in earlier it didn’t appear as an index term in the list, so we are going to have to manually type it in as a keyword.

To do that, type “translation techniques” into the second search row and remember to use the speech marks around the words “ “. This tells the database to look for a phrase rather than separate words.

Next you need to change the linking word between the two words to “OR” as you want to search for either of these concepts. It should look like the example below:
Next we need to add another row, as we need to add another search term.

**Click on add a row underneath the second search box.**

You could add the word Chinese in as a keyword. However, it would be good to know what the meaning of the word is on this database and we may be able to refine this word further.

**Go to the thesaurus and type in the word Chinese and click find.** You can see other options are then presented. **Click on the word Chinese and note the broader and narrower terms.** If you are unsure what the different terms mean you can click next to the term and find out what the notes say. The symbol for notes looks like this.

This time you want to select all the narrower terms associated with Chinese so **you need to put a tick in the ‘explode’ box. Then click add to search. It should look like the example below:**

![Example Search Query](image)

Click on search.

**Choose an article to look at. Click on the preview button and note that the abstract pops up for you to read.** Notice that there is a ‘Find it at Newcastle’ button which would take you through to see if we have the full text available.

**Click on the title** and note the option to cite, email, print and save on the right hand side of page. **Click on cite and click on the drop down box.** Select MLA 8th edition and notice how the citation changes.

Go back to the results pages using the ‘Go back to results link’ above the title.
STEP 7: In order to reduce the number of results you can **have a play with the refine menu** at the left hand side of the page and see what combinations work.

**You could also click on ‘modify search at the top of the page**. Here you could add extra search terms into your original search or even take search terms out. See what happens if you take “translation techniques” row out. Re-run the search.

**Saving searches in LLBA**

You can set up a personal account to let you save searches and/or set alerts in ProQuest. By setting up an account on the platform, you can save searches and/or set alerts from any of the databases, including LLBA.

Click on **My Research** (the head and shoulders icon) at the top of the screen > **Sign in** > **Create a My Research account** to register.

Once set up, select items to add to folders and/or click on **Save search/alert**.

**Help and support**

**Library Help**

**Online** 24/7 chat, FAQs and support
libhelp.ncl.ac.uk