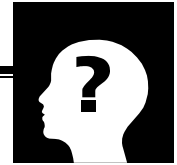




# Quick Answers To Odd Questions



IF YOU NEED TO ANSWER A QUESTION LIKE THIS:

\*What was the original title of the first Godzilla movie? (Gojira, released in 1964)

OR LIKE THIS

\*\*Who said 'I'm as pure as the driven slush'? (Tallulah Bankhead)

OR THIS:

\*\*\*What percentage of adults went to a rock music performance in the year 2004? (9.2%)

THEN you may enjoy using the following list of favorite sites for finding answers to odd questions.

- **Answers.com** at <http://www.answers.com/>  
This reference search service provides instant answers on over a million topics. Answers.com displays quick, snapshot answers with concise, reliable information. Content comes from over 100 authoritative encyclopedias, dictionaries, glossaries and atlases, carefully chosen for breadth and quality.
- **Wikipedia** at <http://wikipedia.org> is an amazing free-content encyclopedia written collaboratively by people from all around the world. (NOTE: This is a good source for information, but, because there is no editorial control, you should NEVER cite this as a source for your academic research.) Wiki - pedia information should always be verified using library sources.
- For the electronic equivalent to the "ready reference" shelf of resources that most librarians keep hidden behind their desks, check out:  
**RefDesk** at <http://www.refdesk.com> can be used to answer questions like:  
Where can I get the new Windows XP Service Pack?  
Where is the 386 area code?  
How do I contact my member of Congress?
- Another resource for lots of those quick-fact questions is  
**InfoPlease** (the publishers of the Information Please almanac) at <http://www.infoplease.com> has links to facts and factoids that you would look up in an almanac, atlas, or encyclopedia.
  - If you want numbers, start with  
\*\*\***The Statistical Abstract of the US** at <http://www.census.gov/compendia/statab/> This source, produced by the U.S. Census Bureau, gives you everything from the divorce rate by state to airline cost indexes going back to 1980. It is many librarians' secret weapon for pulling numbers together quickly.
- If you have a question that concerns "how does that work?" Questions like:  
How they get that Olympic torch to continue to burn while it is being carried by runners from one city to the next?  
Or  
How do solar sails manage to propel a spacecraft?  
For answers, check out the appropriately-named **How Stuff Works** at <http://www.howstuffworks.com>.
- **Ask an ipl2 Librarian a Question** at <http://www.ipl.org/div/askus/index.html> Ipl2 is the result of a merger of the Internet Public Library (IPL) and the Librarians' Internet Index (LII). This service runs 24 hours/day, 7 days/week during most of the year.
- For questions about movies, be sure to use **\*The Internet Movie Database** at <http://www.imdb.com>. It is easy to search, is such a popular site that mistakes are corrected quickly, and is a fun place to catch trailers of both upcoming movies and those dating back to the 30s.
- When you need to figure out who said what, rely on the print sources such as  
**Bartlett's Familiar Quotations**.  
No, the current edition is not available on the web. While there are lots of web-based sources of quotes like <http://www.quotationspage.com> and \*\*\*<http://www.bartleby.com>, unless the site provides the original source for the quotation, don't rely on the citation.
- Of course, if you have a hunch as to the source of a quote, and it was published prior to 1923, head over to **The Project Gutenberg** at <http://www.gutenberg.org> includes the full text of over 12,000 books that are in the public domain. If you need to confirm a quotation of the Red Queen in "Through the Looking Glass," this is where you should start.