# Tech Talks: Search Strategies (Apple/Android)

Know the options for improving your web search results

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### ☐ Default Search Engine

- Apple - Settings > Safari > Search Engine (choose)
- Android - Chrome App > three dot menu > Settings > Search Engine (choose)

### ☐ What Matters

- Keywords (most important first)
- Order (e.g.  blue sky vs. sky blue)
- Special characters
    - **$**  search for a price
    - **-**  exclude any term or phrase directly after it
    - **+**  add numbers
    - **/**  divide numbers
    - **%**  calculate % (e.g. 18% of 73.25)
    - **#**  search for hashtags

### ☐ What Doesn't Matter

- Capitalization
- Punctuation (e.g. how many meters in a mile**?**)
- Save time (e.g. ~~how many~~ meters in a mile)
- Often unnecessary: *and, an, a, or, many, the*

### ☐ Context Searching

- For entry point into new or complex topics, try adding one of these terms: *define, tutorial, introduction, summary, libguides*
- Also, try library databases (e.g. Gale Power Search or Opposing Viewpoints In-context)  https://www.santacruzpl.org/elibrary/section/1/
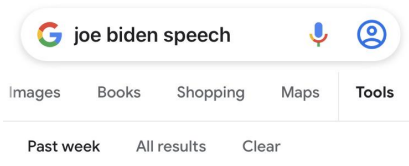
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### ☐ **Advanced Search**

- Advanced search options (e.g. Filter by date "Past week")

  G  joe biden speech

  Images    Books    Shopping    Maps    **Tools**

  Past week    All results    Clear

### ☐ **Search Operators**

- Search Operators (e.g.  site:  related:  filetype: )
  - Examples
    - **autism site:edu** (restricts results to .edu sites)
    - **related:eff.org** (similar or related pages - Google feature)
    - **google search strategy filetype:ppt** (only powerpoint files)

### ☐ **Find on page**

- iPhone Safari (from Share icon, scroll down to "Find on Page")

  Find on Page        🔍

- Android Chrome (from menu (3 dots) > "Find in Page")

  Find in page
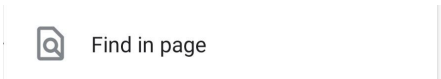
### ☐ **Search Extras**

**Special Google Sites**
- https://news.google.com - news aggregated from sources all over the world
- https://books.google.com - comprehensive index of full-text books
- https://scholar.google.com - broadly search for scholarly literature
- https://images.google.com - most comprehensive image search on the web

**Digital Learning Webpage**
https://www.santacruzpl.org/digitallearning/?display=search-strategies

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