



Gale Virtual Reference Library

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Gale Virtual Reference Library is a database of eBook reference titles, from Gale and its imprints, that allows libraries of any size — based on users' needs and usage patterns — to develop collections at their own pace and within their own budget. In addition to being an affordable online resource, the eBook format allows libraries to offer a small collection for subject areas that are not heavily used. This new reference option also offers:

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- Circulation of reference content
- A continuously growing selection of titles
- Cross searching
- No need for special hardware or an online reader
- Expanded searching for difficult-to-find material
- Shelf-space savings
- Back-up for print resources

FLEXIBILITY AND EASY BROWSING

Gale Virtual Reference Library offers the flexibility to buy one eBook or multiple eBooks; search across a single eBook or an entire eBook collection. In addition, the content is simply presented for users in a display that is easy to browse and includes:

- About this eBook (a description and cover photo)
- Illustration list
- eBook indexes
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- Hyperlinks to related content within an eBook
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CHOOSE YOUR CONTENT

Gale Virtual Reference Library offers more than 85 reference sources including encyclopedias, almanacs, series and more, allowing libraries to provide respected authoritative essays on varied topics from numerous subject areas. Gale will manage your collection, showing your patrons only the eBook titles you have purchased. And with its continuously growing content list, *Gale Virtual Reference Library* will be releasing hundreds of sources in the future that libraries can add to their collections as desired. In 2004, directory sources will be published with a special interface, allowing libraries to offer instant online access to well-known Gale brands, such as Gale®, Charles Scribner's Sons™, Macmillan Reference USA™ and St. James Press®. Directory searching will allow for more granular access to fielded data.

Gale Virtual Reference Library

Welcome to Gale Virtual Reference Library, providing access to award-winning reference content 24 hours a day.

Enter search term(s): in

Number of results per page:

An investment in knowledge pays the best interest. — Benjamin Franklin

As knowledge increases, wonder deepens. — Charles Morgan

Knowledge is of two kinds: we know a subject ourselves, or we know where we can find information upon it. — Samuel Johnson

Knowledge itself is power. — Francis Bacon

▲ With Boolean searching options including keyword, full-text, entry title, subject area, ISBN and publication year, users can search a single eBook or your entire eBook collection



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ADDITIONAL FEATURES:

- Access from Gale common menu — allows library to display with other Gale products
- Results at article/entry level — make it easy to find the most relevant content from a large eBook
- Navigation from a hyperlinked table of contents to an eBook entry — mimics print
- Direct click access from the back-of-the book index to the eBook entry — hyper-linked indexes are easy to navigate quickly
- Illustration list with links to the entry — allows user to browse for an image
- *InfoTrac InfoMarks*® — faculty or students can mark or e-mail relevant documents
- Unlimited usage model — no checkout requirements or turn-away; multi-volume sets are always available
- From the title list at www.gale.com, MARC records can be loaded into OPAC allowing users to click on an embedded *InfoMark* to get to the selected eBook
- Standard usage reports

SEARCH OPTIONS

Gale Virtual Reference Library offers the following types of searches:

Basic search — for users with simple search skills:

- Keywords — limit search to book indexes and words from headings
- Article/entry title — most specific, taking user right to the best content
- Source — search words from the source title

Advanced search — for librarians/advanced searchers with more refined skills:

- Full text — broadest search
- Keywords — limit search to book indexes and words from headings
- Article/entry title — most specific, taking user right to the best content
- Image captions — find images easily
- Source — search words from the source title
- ISBN
- Gale record number

Limit options in advanced searching:

- Publication date
- Source — browse list within collection and select up to 10
- Subject area — pick-list of subject areas; may select multiple areas
- Audience — pick-list useful for public libraries and schools to target general audience or children's content

PLATFORM/FORMAT

Gale Virtual Reference Library is delivered from the Gale platform using standard browsers, monitors and plug-in software (Adobe Acrobat® Reader®). Also included are standard Gale features such as results lists; mark lists; help pages; list of sources; dictionary; *InfoMarks*; search histories; and e-mail capability. The database is accessible to Z39.50-compliant third-party software applications, and citation formatting allows researchers to have a choice of using citation standards.

Content is delivered in HTML for use with standard PCs, laptops and Macs, maximizing speed of accessing entries. For users wishing to access the page image directly, we also store PDFs (when available) allowing an option to view the page layout.