

Text alternative to video: NEAR

Welcome to this video about the proximity operator NEAR.

Proximity operators like NEAR narrows down the search and enables us to define a maximum distance between search words.

NEAR consists often, but not always, of three parts:

NEAR, followed by a slash and a number.

The number is the maximum number of words between two search words, and it's up to you to figure out what the number should be to best suit your search.

It might be a good idea to do a test search and then alter the number and search again until you find a number that best suits you.

Let's see how it might look in this mock-up.

Here we have four different texts.

If we search for a truncated nurse NEAR/2 science, that means that the words nurse, nursing, nurses, etc., may only have a maximum of two words between them and the word science.

[The "database" counts the number of words between the search words in each text]

[If there is less than two, the text gets included in the search results]

In our mock-up, only one of the texts had more than two words separating the search words, and it was therefore excluded from the results.

Please take note that even if a text has no words between the search words, it gets included in the search results.

The search words may even appear in any order in the text. The only limits are that they are in the text and in a certain distance of each other.

Thank you for listening.

Feel free to drop by the library should you have any questions.

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