

Information Literacy Tip – Why do we need to be information literate?

Did you know that “one out of 8 couples married last year in the US met online?”

That and many other startling factoids are in a simple 5 minute online video about the explosion of information and the need for information literacy. Click the link below to play the video for your class. It has sound which is not necessary:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cL9Wu2kWwSY>

Note: Youtube videos may be removed or moved without notice.

After the video, your class might discuss:

- How do we even know these facts are correct?
- What information skills would we need to find out if the facts in the video are correct?
- What information literacy skills will we need to do our jobs, no matter what our jobs are?
- How will American keep competitive with the rest of the world? Are we falling behind already?

Extra credit:

From [Demanding Literacy in the White House?](#)

Should Presidential and Vice-Presidential candidates be tested for information literacy skills? It is not in the Constitution. However, Michelle Dover in “Demanding Literacy in the White House” is suggesting such a test. The article was published in *Steamboat Local* in Colorado. Dover wrote:

I strongly suggest, as a nation, we stipulate that anyone who is going to hold a public office should take a literacy test appropriate to his or her responsibility level. Closer to my point, vice presidential candidates and presidential candidates must read from a broad range of sources in order to be informed about the world. We must hold them responsible to achieve this expectation! Some refer to this specific literacy skill as Information Literacy. Thus, public officials should be tested in order to make sure American Intellectual and Informational standards are at the highest level among our elected officials.”