

**Ready Reference Reviews**  
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**COVER SHEET**

| <b>Title of Source</b>                                | <b>Question type it answers</b>  |
|---|----------------------------------|
| 1. <i>ConsumerSearch</i>                              | What, Which, Where,<br>How much  |
| 2. <i>Emily Post's Etiquette. 16<sup>th</sup> ed.</i> | How to, Who, What                |
| 3. <i>Internet Movie Database (IMDb)</i>              | Who, What, Which,<br>When, Where |
| 4. <i>Oxford Companion to Fairy Tales</i>             | Which, What, Who,<br>When, Where |
| 5. <i>Statesman's Yearbook 2010</i>                   | When, Where, Who                 |
| 6. <i>World Fact Book</i>                             | Where, What, How,<br>When,       |

## 1.

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| <b>Work: ConsumerSearch</b><br><a href="http://www.consumersearch.com/">http://www.consumersearch.com/</a>   |
| <b>Producer or sponsor:</b><br>ConsumerSearch, Inc- Provided by About.com and The New York Times Company.  |
| <b>Description:</b><br>ConsumerSearch was conceptualized in 1991 to create a user-friendly database of consumer reports and reviews to make the process of informed purchases more manageable. This database provides consumers with the ability to search and compare commercially available brands, without concerns of alternate commercial motives. The site provides users with eight broad categories (Electronics, Home & Garden, Kitchen & Food, Fitness & Sports, Computers & Internet, Family & Pets, Health & Beauty, and Automotive) for beginning a search if they are not sure of their specific needs or an alphabetical index if they already have a specific topic or item that they are searching for. The site provides a listing of the top rated items or brands for a category, details about each of the rated items, the process by which the item received its rating, and in some cases, price quotes from different competitors. Additionally, the site offers an informative blog on current consumer issues, a weekly newsletter, and an RSS feed that allows frequent visitors to stay informed of the latest updates. |
| <b>Question:</b><br>What is the top rated minivan for 2009?  |
| <b>Answer:</b><br>The Honda Odyssey is the top rated minivan for 2009, due to its consistent high scores on reviews and receiving the most automotive/safety awards for its class.<br><i>Features Used:</i><br>From the homepage select automotive and then minivans. The top four rated minivans are listed on this page with additional information on awards and reviews.   |
| <b>Review Clip:</b> <i>"The site employs over 50 researchers who identify and rank product reviews based on their currency, credibility, testing methodology, and the reviewer's qualifications.... This is an excellent resource for those trying to locate and evaluate product review information on the Internet."</i> Reviewed by MARS in March 2005.   |

## 2.

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| <b>Work :</b><br>Post, Peggy. Emily Post's Etiquette 16th ed. 1997. New York: HarperCollinsPublishers, 876 pages, ISBN-10:0062700782, \$35.00  |
| <b>Description:</b><br>The resource is a comprehensive text delivered in an 876 page hardback format that details the proper etiquette for a variety of situations. The situations discussed range from tipping, to dealing with a divorce, and courtesies between the sexes. The resource is divided into nine categories that are each marked with a easy-to-use thumb tab: Formalities; Your Personal Life; Your Professional Life; Communications; Travel and Tipping; Entertaining and Entertainments; Celebrations and Ceremonies; Gifts, Giving and Thank-yous; and Weddings. The resource retains its focus on personal interactions that were set forth in the original edition with guidelines for interactions in |

both personal matters and business, but has been updated to address the more modern developments of ‘netiquette’, electronic communication, and divorce-related protocol.

**Question:**

How do I involve my divorced father and mother in my wedding day plans in a manner that is equitable to both?

**Answer:**

If it is the wedding of a daughter by a divorced couple, the father-of-the-bride will accompany the bride to the wedding, escort her down the aisle and give her away. If the parents are not on speaking terms the father will take his assigned seat in the second pew behind the mother’s family. The current wife of the father may be seated next to him, unless doing so will cause a disruption, in which case she should be seated father back with a friend. If the parent’s of the child cannot abide each other’s presence then the father will attend the wedding only and give his congratulations to the new couple at another time.

*Features Used:*

The entire last chapter is devoted to wedding planning. The answer to this question was found in the section dedicated to seating arrangements.

**Review Clip:** *“Peggy Post, Emily Post’s great-granddaughter-in-law and the current, high-profile spokesperson for the Emily Post Institute is celebrating the seventy-fifth anniversary of this modern classic by presenting a thoroughly updated and rigorously detailed new edition....While the philosophy of etiquette must be everlasting, the practice of manners is ever-changing. YA: It’s not just ‘manners’ anymore, great for reference collections. SZ.” ~Donna Seaman, review printed in Booklist on 04/01/1997.*

### 3.

**Work: The Internet Movie Database (IMDb)**

<http://www.imdb.com/>

**Producer or sponsor:**

The Internet Movie Database Ltd., IMDb.com, Inc. and the amazon.com company.

**Description:**

The Internet Movie Database is a comprehensive database of movies, television shows, and actors/actresses. The interface is very user-friendly, utilizing hyperlinks cross-reference actors, films, producers, and anyone involved with the movie. Individual actors, producers, directors, and movies/television shows are given their own webpage. Each webpage for movies/television shows list all actors/producers/directors related to the work. Each actor/producer/director has their entire “work history” in movies and television in reverse chronological order, followed by any soundtracks, and other applicable categories for the actor. Text searching allows the user to locate movie quotes. There are five separate Advanced Search Settings: Advanced Title Search, Advanced Name Search, Collaborations and Overlaps, Title Text Search, and Name Text Search.

**Question:**

Who plays the Miracle Max’s wife in the Princess Bride and what has she performed in recently?

**Answer:**

Valerie (Miracle Max’s wife) is played by Carol Kane. In 2009 she had performances in various television series, including “Monk” (Joy), “Law& Order: Special Victims Unit” (Gwen Munch),

and “Two and a Half Men” (Shelly). Kane will be featured in two movies in 2010 “My Girlfriend’s Boyfriend” and “Pete Smalls is Dead.”

*Features Used:*

Search for “Princess Bride” and scroll through the cast. Click the hyperlink of the desired actor and you will be redirected to a website with their entire film and television history listed in chronological order, including trivia and famous quotes.

**Review Clip:** *“The database is a highly comprehensive and easy to use movie reference tool.”*

Reviewed by MARS in February 1999.

#### 4.

**Work:**

Zipes, Jack. The Oxford Companion to Fairy Tales. 2000. New York: Oxford University Press, 1 volume, ISBN-10: 9780198601159, \$164

**Description:**

The Oxford Companion to Fairy Tales is a collaborative effort with 66 contributing authors and 14 editors. The Companion provides a complete background and the academic credentials of each author and/or editor, illustrating the depth of expertise brought to the creation of this resource. The resource beings by providing a detailed definition of a literary Fairy Tale as distinguished from an Oral Fairy Tale, allowing the readers to understand the rational utilized by the authors in including or excluding materials. The Oxford Companion contains 800 entries offering specific titles, the impact of fairy tales or specific works of literature on political movements, the variety of mediums utilized in presenting fairy tales, and the origin of specific works (with their original authors and/or more contemporary revisions). These topics are listed alphabetically and by topic, sharing a classic presentation style similar to an encyclopedia. The resource contains black-and white illustrations where possible and appropriate.

**Question:**

Which Fairy Tales can be claimed by North American authors?

**Answer:**

“The Wonderful Wizard of Oz”, “The Princess Bride”, “The Never Ending Story”, “Rebecca of Sunnybrook Farm”, “Daddy Long-Legs”, “The Cat in the Hat”, “Where the Wild Things Are”, “Anne of Green Gables”, and the “Paper Bag Princess” can be defined at Fairy Tales and originated on the North American continent.

*Features Used:*

Since this product is ordered alphabetical by the topic, I looked up the section on North America and read for cited titles. It is probable that the list is not all inclusive, given that the text is ten years old and that it is errors in omission are most likely, but the depth of material provided would give a patron a solid start on any project related to this topic.

**Review Clip:** *“Zipes, a major authority on the subject, lets readers explore the development of the fairy-tale tradition in various countries, paying special attention to European and American writings. Attractive, well written, and approachable, this solid guide to the fairy-tale world is without equal. Recommended for all public and academic libraries.”* Reviewed by Richard K. Burns, MSLS, Hatboro, PA. Review acquired through LISTA.

## 5.

**Work:**

Turner, Barry. Statesman's Yearbook 2010: The Politics, Cultures and Economies of the World. 2010. Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan, 1569 pages, ISBN-13:9780230206021, \$285.00

**Description:**

This is the 146<sup>th</sup> edition of the Statesman's Yearbook. The book is hard bound and contains over 1500 pages of information about the politics and cultures of the people and nations of the world. The inside of the front cover contains a current political map of the world. The resource is divided into two sections. Part I is titled "International Organizations" and gives a brief description off each world organization categorized by continent. Part II is titled "Countries of the World" and contains an alphabetical list of countries with territories, provinces, or states as subtitles of the country. The end also contains an index that is alphabetized by current leaders of the world, and an additional index of places and international organizations.

**Question:**

When was the World Health Organization founded?

**Answer:**

The World Health Organization was adopted on 22 July 1946 and came into force on 7 April 1948.

*Features Used:*

Found World Health Organization in the table of contents under Special Agencies of the UN.  
Origin found in first paragraph.

**Review Clip:** *"Palgrave Macmillan's The Statesman's Yearbook, ... named one of the top 50 reference sources of the millennium...was just released in its 143rd edition (ISBN 1-4039-9276-2. \$235). Originally designed for statesmen but now used by anyone needing information on the politics, cultures, and economies of the world, this yearbook is one of the longest-running annual publications in history."* Reviewed by Mirela Roncevic. Review found in Library Journal December 2006.

## 6.

**Work: The World Factbook**

<https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/>

**Producer or sponsor:**

Central Intelligence Agency

**Description:**

Published by the Central Intelligence Agency for the United States, the website is provided to the world on the theory that free information is the basis of free societies. This resource provides data regarding the political makeup, the geographic features, the population distribution, the cultural ideology, the economic elements, and other concrete features of a approximately 266 nations in the world. The home page offers a drop down box listing every county alphabetically and an interactive map, allowing visitors two different methods for selecting the country they are seeking data about. This site also offers the ability to easily cross-reference a particular fact (such as population) about each nation and present it in a list sorted by that data (Highest to lowest population). Additionally, The World Factbook offers physical and political maps of the world, maps of the standard time zones, and a visual reference of the flags of the world (listed alphabetically with a link to further details on the specific flag).

**Question:**

Where is the country of Georgia located?

**Answer:**

Georgia is found in Southwestern Asia bordered by Russia on the north, the Black Sea on the west, and Turkey on the South. Its geographic coordinates are 42 00 N, 43 30 E

*Features Used:*

From the drop down menu select Georgia. Reference map and geography tab.

**Review Clip:** *“The C.I.A. produces the World Factbook to meet the needs of government officials for background material on economic, geographic, and political conditions in 267 countries around the globe.... Since it is in the public domain, it may be copied freely. Published annually, it includes the latest material at the time of publication.”* Reviewed by MARS in June 1999.