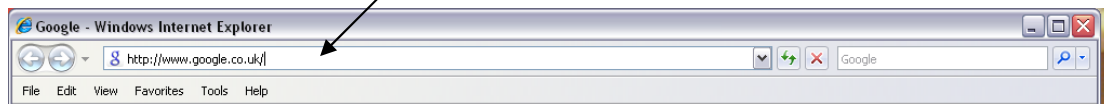


SEARCHING THE INTERNET

If you already know the web address you are looking for then simply type the address into the address box here. The technical name for a web address is a URL.



The web address is made up of different parts and understanding some of those parts can help you to understand the website you are looking for. This can be useful if you only want to look at UK websites or ones that are academic.

Here is an example broken down for you:

http://	This bit tells the browser (e.g. Internet Explorer) that you are looking for a web site
www.geoffpetty.com/	This is the domain which stores the information that you are looking for
activelearning.html	This is the name of the specific document within the web site

Put them together and you have:

<http://www.geoffpetty.com/activelearning.html> – this name is unique on the internet.

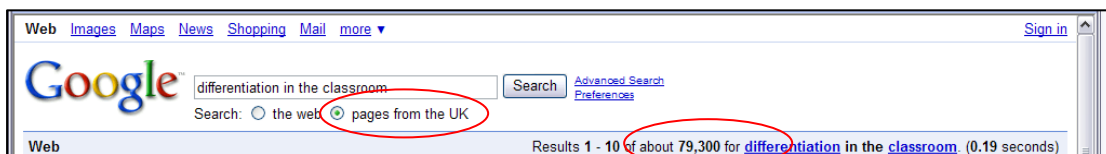
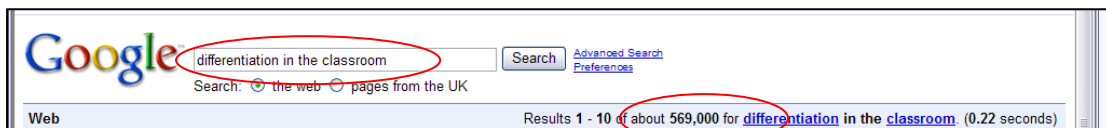
Below are some endings that you might recognise:

co	Companies
com	US but also international companies
gov	US government
gov.uk	UK government
net	Internet related companies
uk, fr, ie	United Kingdom, France, Ireland
ac	An academic organisation
edu	An educational institution
org	A non profit making organisation
sch	A school
mil	Military organisation

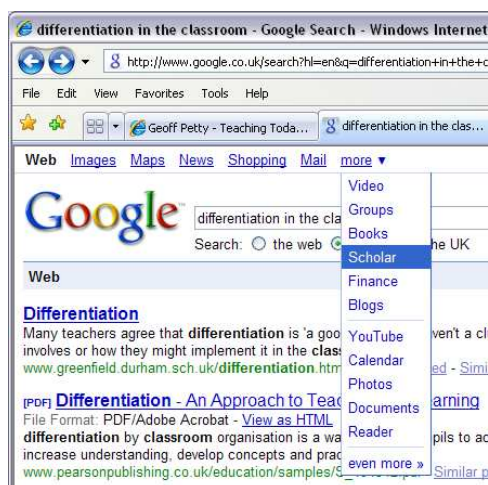
If however you are not sure what you are looking for then you will probably use a search engine such as Google. A search engine simply searches the World Wide Web for articles containing your search words.

WARNING – be careful what you search for, a simple search for ice cream led one of my students to a rather unsuitable site in which people were using ice cream for very strange things!

Be precise and your search will be far more accurate. Here's how:



Using just the word 'differentiation' we return over 20,000,000 results. Narrow it down to 'differentiation in the classroom' and it goes down to 569,000 results. Click the 'pages from the UK' option and it drops right down to just over 79,000. This is still a huge amount of information but significantly less than we started with.



You can narrow down your search even further if you choose the 'scholar' option from the 'more' list in Google. Just over 46,000 results.

Don't forget there are lots of different search engines, you could try:

- <http://uk.yahoo.com/>
- <http://uk.msn.com/>
- <http://uk.ask.com/>