

Alexa the Friendly Librarian

General Research Topic:



One day, I invited Professor Alexa Azzopardi to give a presentation in a class I was teaching. My students “knew” that any day when the librarian visited was going to be a dull day. What they ended up with was an exciting game of *Stump the Librarian* where they were given the opportunity to ask Professor Azzopardi difficult research questions.

Once a question was asked, Professor Azzopardi would conduct a variety of on-line and database searches to find the answer; searches which we projected on a screen in the front of the room.

I had offered a prize of 25 cents to anyone who could ask a question which Professor Azzopardi could not answer. Although the students tried hard to win the quarter, Professor Azzopardi could not be stumped. After all, she is a reference librarian and therefore knows everything. And what she does not know, she knows how to find.

Make friends with a reference librarian as you begin your research paper—when you are still trying to get ideas—and continue working with him/her throughout the semester.

Assignment

After discussing your research topic with a reference librarian, please summarize the results of your conversation below. Be sure to include the name of the librarian with whom you met as well as specific examples about what you discussed.

