



## ***MicroModule: linksfrom***

### **Links From**

### **REVIEW Page**

Below is the entire module on one page.

#### **How reliable are the pages that link from a web site to other Internet resources?**

Most web sites are not self-contained. They include links from other web sites and/or resources. These links are clues to the credibility of the author and reliability of the information we are reading.

- Where do these links lead?
- Who authored the information on the other end?
- Are the links featured on the website from credible sources?
- Do these links support or contradict facts or opinions on the author's page?
- Do these pages add any new information on the topic?
- Are the pages on another site or the same site? Domain?

Follow the links on an author's page, answer these questions, and we find out. Yes or no, we know something important about the original web site.

#### **Why should I want to know to whom the author links the web pages?**

Links to other pages are like footnotes in a hard copy document, they can provide a context for evaluation. They can tell you how the author supports his argument and what other information he considers important.

#### **How do I find out to whom the author links the web pages?**

If a link is no longer working, "truncate" the URL and try to find the same or related page on the same site. Run your cursor over the URL then select and delete from the right side back, stopping at different "/" marks.

Try each one until you find a page that tells you more about the site.

- Who sponsors it?
- Are they reputable?
- In the same field?

Click each of the links below to see truncation in action:

- <http://21cif.imsa.edu/resources/links/>
- <http://21cif.imsa.edu/resources/>
- <http://21cif.imsa.edu/>

You can also use a search engine to search for the same file name on the site. This is how you would search the 21cif.imsa.edu web site for this tip on Links From found on a page called "evaluate3.html".

The screenshot shows the IMSA Internet Search Wizard interface. At the top, it says "21st CENTURY INFORMATION FLUENCY PROJECT PORTAL" and "IMSA INTERNET SEARCH WIZARD". Below this, there are navigation links: "You Are Here: Home » Search Form", "You Are Not Logged In", "Log In", and "Join".

The main content area is titled "Advanced search for content". It includes a description: "This search form enables you to find content on the site by specifying one or more search terms. Remember that you can use the quick search anytime, it's normally good enough, this search form is just in you want to be more specific." Below this is a "Search Terms" section with a "Search Text" input field containing "evaluate3.html". There is also a "Keywords" section with a list of terms: "ISTE NETS", "apa", "aurora university director instructional technology", "cbe", "chicago style", and "chris".

On the left side, there is a "Log in" section with fields for "Name" (containing "lkaiser") and "Password" (containing "XXXXXXXX"), and a "Log In" button. Below this are links for "Forgot your password?" and "New user?". There is also a "Links" section with a list of items: "Portal Home", "Members", "IMSA Search Wizard", "Search This Site" (highlighted with a yellow circle), "Citation Tool", "Project Tips", "Spelling Tool", "Thesaurus Tool", "FAQ", and "Safety Tips".

On the right side, there is a "News" section with a list of items: "Turning The Pages on the Web: Leonardo's Notebooks." (2003-09-06), "NoodleBib 4.0 Released" (2003-09-04), "Plagiarism" (2003-09-02), "12 Week Grad Course Participants" (2003-08-29), and "Statewide Virtual Reference Service for ILLNET member libraries" (2003-08-26).

Each web site that offers a "search this site" option may set it up a little different, but there should be a text box in which to write the file name. The file name should be everything after the final "/" in the URL.

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***End of Micromodule - linksfrom.***

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