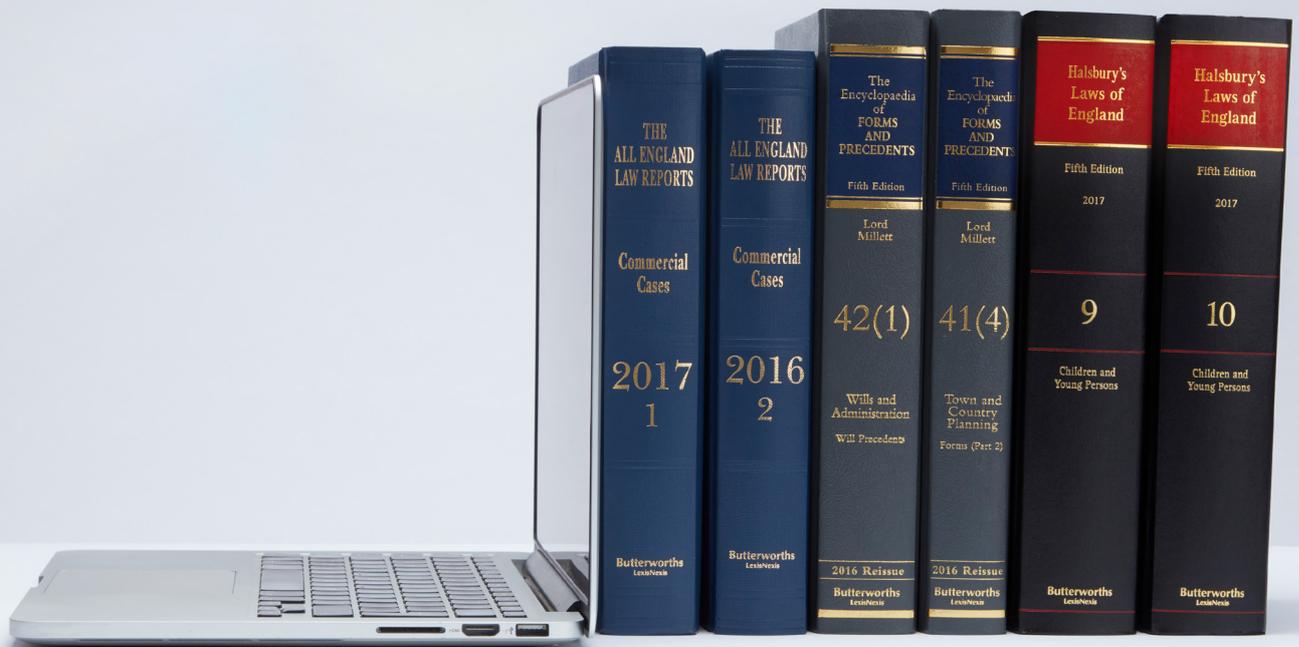# Lexis®Library Connectors Guide

Search Connectors

Connectors are important as they are required in all fields entitled "Search Terms".

In all areas not entitled "Search Terms", you will be able to search using Natural Language.

In 'Search Terms' boxes, LexisLibrary will search for all of the key words you enter as an exact phrase, unless they are separated by a connector.

For example: Searching for *Human Rights* only brings back articles with those words next to each other in that order.	For example: searching for *fraud and online banking* will find the word fraud and the phrase online banking.

Connectors and wildcards enable you to conduct more efficient and effective searching on LexisLibrary. The key connectors are outlined below.

and	Links words or phrases that appear anywhere in the same document. *Example: armed robbery and weapon finds both the phrase armed robbery and the word weapon anywhere in the same document.*
or	Links synonyms, alternative forms of expression, abbreviations, acronyms, etc. *Example: lawyer or counsel finds either the word lawyer or the word counsel*
w/n	Links search words and phrases to create concepts, without specifying word order. 'n' represents any number from 3 to 255. *Example: dismissal w/5 constructive finds dismissal within 5 words or fewer of constructive, regardless of which word appears first.*
w/s	Looks for documents with search words in the same sentence. *Example*: cloning w/s legislation finds cloning within the same sentence as legislation. *Note: The w/s connector cannot be combined with the w/n connector.*
w/p	Looks for documents with search words in the same paragraph. *Example*: unfair w/p dismissal finds unfair within the same paragraph as dismissal. *Note: The w/p connector cannot be combined with the w/n connector.*
! Truncation	The truncation symbol (an exclamation mark) replaces any number of characters at the end of a word and allows you to search for alternative word endings. *Example*: acqui! will find acquire, acquires, acquired, acquiring, and acquisition *Note: Words that work best with ! are those that are unique in their truncated form. For example, if you search fir! (to retrieve fired, firing or fires), your results will also include first, firm, etc.*
* Wildcard	The wildcard symbol (an asterisk) replaces a single character at any point in a word, except for the first character. *Example:* wom*n will find both woman and women. The wildcard (*) is particularly useful if you are unsure of the spelling of a particular word or name. You can also use multiple wildcards in a single word. *Example: int**net finds both internet and intranet. Using wildcards at the end of a word will truncate a word for a specific number of characters. Example: Transplan*** finds transplant, transplants or transplanted, but will not find transplantation, transplanting, etc.*

The Future of Law. Since 1818.