Nexis Uni - The “atleast” and ! commands

Nexis Uni contains billions of news articles - so finding exactly what you want requires some special commands.

atleast is a specialized Nexis Uni command that is designed to find articles that contain the word or phrase you are looking for as much as or more than a specified number of times.

atleast5(economics)
This search asks that the word economics shows up at least 5 or more times in the article.

atleast7(“freedom of speech”)
This search asks that the phrase “freedom of speech” shows up at least 7 or more times in the article (at least seven times).

atleast4(“video games”) AND atleast6(learning)
This search asks that the phrase “video games” shows up at least 4 or more times in the article and that learning also shows up 6 or more times in the same article.

The exclamation mark ! in Nexis Uni works like the asterisk * in other databases.
The search: educat! ... looks for educate, educated, educates, education, educational, educating etc.

atleast6(financ!)
This search asks that some combination of the words finance, financing, financial, financed, finances, etc. show up 6 or more times in the article (at least six times).

atleast14(Internet OR online)
This search asks that either the word “Internet” or the word “online” appear 14 or more times in the article.

atleast4(Iowa!) AND atleast7(agricultur! OR farm!)
This search asks that some combination of the words Iowa, Iowa’s, Iowan, and Iowans appear 4 or more times in the article and at the same time either the words agriculture, agricultural, etc. or the words farm, farms, farming, farmer, farmers, farmed, etc. show up 7 or more times.

Note - in Nexis Uni the command:

atleast5(diamonds OR sapphires OR pearls) = (atleast5(diamonds) OR atleast5(sapphires) OR atleast5(pearls))
Very important ... no spaces in between (except ...)

When you use the **Nexis Uni atleast** command there should be no space between “**atleast**”, the number you choose, the first parentheses “(”, and either the first letter of the word or the first quotation mark “ of the phrase you are searching for.

**Examples**

There should be no spaces in the search: **atleast4(Iowa!)**

The only spaces in the following search should be between the words in the phrase: **atleast7(“freedom of speech”)**

The only spaces in the following search should be between the words and the Boolean command “OR” **atleast14(Internet OR online)**

**Also ...**

The **atleast** command **only works in Nexis Uni.**

**What number should I use with atleast?**

Hard to tell in advance. Think of these numbers as an experiment.

If you get **too many results** – back up - **make the number larger** – and search again.

If you get **too few results** – or no results – back up – **make the number smaller** – and search again.

- **atleast3(nanotechnology)** finds over 10000 results back up and make the number **larger**
- **atleast6(nanotechnology)** finds over 10000 results back up and make the number **larger**
- **atleast12(nanotechnology)** finds over 2000 results back up and make the number **larger**
- **atleast60(nanotechnology)** finds only 61 results back up and make the number **smaller**
- **atleast30(nanotechnology)** finds 220 results **now take a look.**