Nexis Uni – Putting it All Together

Here are examples of searches that combine the `atleast`, `length>`, and `!` commands.

Example 1

Let’s say we want to find essay-length news articles that focus on the commercial use of drones that have been published in the last six months.

Open Nexis Uni which automatically defaults to News.

Now let’s experiment with the `atleast`, `length>`, and `!` commands.

Start with a basic search that looks for lengthy articles (longer than 1000 words) and that contain at least one occurrence of the word drones and one occurrence of one of the following words: commerce, commercial, business, businesses.

Try

```
drones and (commerc! OR business!) and length>1000
```

This finds too many results (over 10,000).

Solution? Limit by publication date (Timeline), Publication Type, and Source(s)

We could click on the Timeline and limit the results to the last three months. This produces about 5000 results.

We could then also limit by Publication Type and choose Newspapers. This produces about 700 results.

If we wanted to try limiting the results even further we could limit by Source and choose the Chicago Daily Herald (42 results) or The New York Times (29 results) or the Los Angeles Times (19 results) or click on the option Select Multiple to get the results from all three of these papers (90 results).

Another solution? Increase the number of times each of the search terms appears in the article (make the results more relevant).
So instead of limiting by Timeline and Publication Type and Source we can instead increase the number of times we want to see the word drones and one of the following words commerce, commercial, business, businesses. Try:

```
atleast5(drones) AND atleast4(commerc! OR business!) AND length>1000
```

This still finds around 5000 results - and we could then apply the Timeline, Publication Type and Source limits – but we could also try increasing the atleast numbers yet again to get fewer and more focused articles. Perhaps try:

```
atleast12(drones) AND atleast15(commerc! OR business!) AND length>1000
```

This produces about 500 results and only 200 results if the Timeline is limited to the last year.

### Example 2

Now let’s use **Nexis Uni** to look for newspaper articles on **rising sea levels** and **climate change**. Let’s ask for articles that have been published in the last two years and, for this example, let’s suppose we’re willing to live with articles that are at least 750 words in length.

Start with a basic search that looks for somewhat lengthy articles (longer than 750 words) and that contain at least one occurrence of the words and phrases “sea level”, rise or rising, and “climate change. Try:

```
"sea level" AND (rise OR rising) AND "climate change" AND length>750
```

This search finds more than 10,000 results so we can start focusing by using the atleast command.

Try:

```
atleast3("sea level") AND atleast3(rise OR rising) AND atleast4("climate change") AND length>750
```

This last search finds over 5,000 results initially, but if we limit the Timeline to the last two year, and set the Publication Type to Newspapers we are left with roughly 250 results. By using the Source these results in turn could be limited by Source to articles from **The Guardian** (London), **The New York Times**, and **The Christian Science Monitor**.
Example 3
For our next example let’s look for newspaper articles in Nexis Uni on bitcoins and crime or fraud. Let’s make sure they are at least 1000 words in length.

Start with a basic search that looks for lengthy articles (longer than 1000 words) and that contains at least one occurrence of the word bitcoins and one occurrence of one of the following words: crime or criminal or fraud or fraudulent.

Try:

bitcoins AND (crime OR criminal OR fraud!) AND length>1000

This search finds about three thousand results. Let’s see if we can get more focused with atleast commands.

Now try:

atleast4(bitcoins) AND atleast3(crime OR criminal OR fraud!) AND length>1000

This last search finds about three hundred articles.

If we limit the Publication Type to Newspapers we are left with fifty articles.

Example 4
For our last example let’s use Nexis Uni to look for Broadcast Transcripts on climate change in the Antarctic. Let’s also look for broadcasts that were aired in the last three years and let’s make sure they are at least 1000 words in length.

One approach would be to first click on the option A Publication and type in a particular television or radio program such as NPR which produces the option NPR All Things Considered or Fox which gives us the Fox News Network as an option.

Unless we have a particular news source in mind we could instead simply start with a search.
Let’s try a search that looks for lengthy transcripts (longer than 1000 words) and that contains at least one occurrence of the phrase **climate change** and one occurrence of one of the following words: Antarctic, Antarctica, Antarctica’s

Try: "climate change” AND Antarctic! AND length>1000

This search finds over 10,000 sources though limiting to News Transcripts using the **Publication Type** option reduces this to about 900 transcripts which is further reduced to 300 transcripts if the **Timeline** is used to limit to the past three years.

Rather than look through this many transcripts, let’s try the search again and this time we’ll focus on more relevant articles by using the **atleast** command. Modify the search to

```
    atleast3("climate change") AND atleast6(Antarctic!) AND length>1000
```

This produces about 1000 results which is reduced to 60 when the Publication Type is set to News Transcripts and further reduced to 20 transcripts when the **Timeline** is set to the last three years.