Truncation / Wildcards in Web of Science Citation Index

- At least three characters must precede the wildcard in Title and Topic Field Searches
- You cannot use wildcards in Publication Year Searches

There are three truncation symbols in Web of Science: *, $, ?

**STAR** * retrieves zero or more characters after the star.

*Example:* Leader* retrieves leader, leaders, leadership

**DOLLAR SIGN** $ retrieves zero or one character after the dollar sign

*Example:* labo$r retrieves labor or labour [Esp. useful for British Spellings]

**QUESTION MARK** ? retrieves a single character

*Example:* wom?n retrieves women or woman

**Proximity:**

**Exact phrase**: Use quotation marks "" e.g. "transformational learning"

**NEAR**: automatically searches for the two words within 15 words of one another

**NEAR/X** where X= the number of words apart.