

Westlaw Asia – Terms & Connectors

Function	Symbol	Explanation	Example
AND	& (or space)	Search terms in the same document (words can appear in any order and anywhere in the document, not necessarily together)	Trade & mark & registration Trade mark registration
OR	Or	Search one term or the other	Car or automobile
Phrase	“ ”	Search terms appearing in the same order as in the quotation marks	“promissory estoppel”
Grammatical connectors	/s	Search terms in the same sentence (words will appear in either order)	Nuisance /s noise This will yield results with nuisance or noise appearing first in the sentence
	/p	Search terms in the same paragraph (words will appear in either order)	Hearsay /p admissibility This will yield results with hearsay or admissibility appearing first in the sentence
	+s	The first term will appear before the second in the same sentence	Burden +s proof Burden will come before proof in the sentence
	+p	The first term will appear before the second in the same paragraph	Right +p counsel Right will come before counsel in the same paragraph
Numerical Connectors	/n	Search terms with a maximum distance of n words apart (n=number smaller than 255)	Person /3 jurisdiction Person and jurisdiction will not be more than 3 words apart (can be together, 1, 2 or 3 words apart)
	+n	The first term will appear before the second by no more than 'n' words (n = number smaller than 255)	Capital +3 punishment Capital and punishment will not be more than 3 words apart (can be together, 1, 2 or 3 words apart) and Capital will come before punishment
But not	%	Documents not containing the term or terms following the % symbol (exclusion symbol)	Taxation % income Search results related to taxation but do not mention the word income in the entire document
Root expander	!	Terms with multiple endings	Object! = object, objected, objection, objecting, objectionable
Universal character	*	Search for words with variable characters, using *	Withdr*w = withdraw, withdrew
Irregular plurals	automatic	Automatically retrieved	
No Plural/equivalents	#	Turn off plurals of a particular term by placing the # symbol in front of the term	# device
Compound terms			Good-will will retrieve good-will, goodwill and good will