<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Device or operator</th>
<th>Explanation</th>
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| AND                | Will bring back search results containing both searched terms. Must be capitalised.  
  e.g. Othello AND Gatsby |
| OR                 | Will bring back results containing one of the searched terms. Must be capitalised.  
  e.g. flu OR influenza |
| NOT                | Will exclude a certain term from the search results. Must be capitalised.  
  e.g. mr NOT mister |
| ( )                | Help to determine an order of results when using more complicated search terms.  
  e.g. diabetes AND (blood sugar OR glucose)  
  This ensures that results which come back will contain the first term, plus either of the second terms, rather than the first and second terms, and maybe the third term. |
| “ “                | Will search for a specific phrase.  
  e.g. “symptoms of meningitis” |
| ?                  | Allows you to leave a blank in a term to allow for multiple words. Can be used for more than one letter.  
  e.g. wom?n will bring back results for woman and women.  
  It can also be used to allow for Americanised spellings.  
  e.g. organi?e will bring back organise and organize. |
| near               | Brings back related terms within a specific area.  
  e.g. emergency near caesarean will return results which all have the word emergency within 10 words of caesarean. |
| *                  | Allows for truncation of words and wildcards.  
  e.g. wor* will give you word, words, worship, worse, worst... |

Note:

This is a general overview of search operators you can use, but all search engines are different. Some operators may not work in some search engines, or work differently.