Lexis *Advance*®
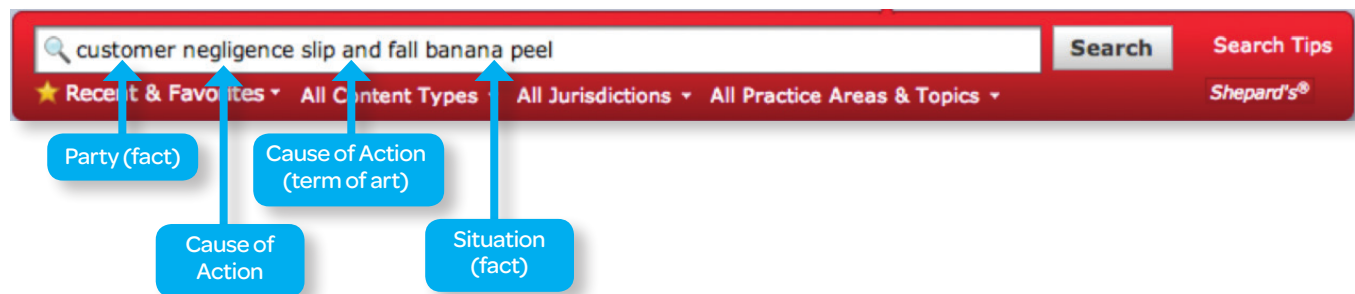# Save Time—Build a More Efficient Search

The Lexis Advance® search box makes finding relevant supporting authority efficient and easy.

Natural Language Searching

Like the name suggests, you can build an efficient search using everyday language. Simply use the Lexis Advance search box to type the key words that you would use when describing your research assignment to another person. Lexis Advance will run a natural language search—ranking by relevance—documents that use words that match your search terms.

To build the strongest, most efficient natural language search (1) include elements of a good search and (2) leave out "noise" words like: and, or, the, or, of.

Party (fact)

Cause of Action

Cause of Action (term of art)
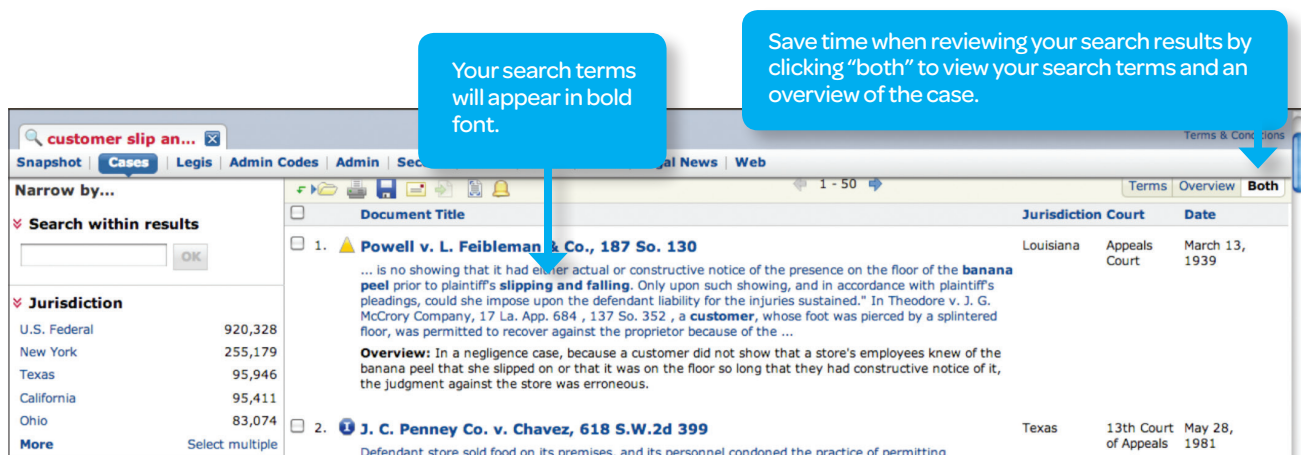
Situation (fact)

Elements of a Good Natural Language Search

Cause of Action—The legal theory that the plaintiff is invoking in order to bring the law suit.

Facts—In law, there are many types of facts, ranging from adjudicative facts to material facts. Facts are the alleged or actual details of a case. Consider including a description of the party and details about the alleged situation at issue.

Term of Art—A word or phrase that has a specific legal meaning. If a relevant "term of art" applies, include it in your search.

Your search terms will appear in bold font.

Save time when reviewing your search results by clicking "both" to view your search terms and an overview of the case.

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"Boolean" Searching Using Terms and Connectors

Terms and Connectors are special words and symbols—and, or, !, w/#, and at least—that attorneys use to build a controlled, precise search. When you use terms and connectors in your search, Lexis Advance automatically runs a Boolean search. Boolean searches retrieve documents that exactly match the search criteria.

Search Tips

Whether running a natural language search or further controlling your answer set with terms and connectors, start your search by including the salient elements of the fact pattern: the cause of action, a description of the party, specific facts and relevant terms of art. Terms and connectors between your search terms tailor your results.

Consider using these common terms and connectors

or—retrieves results that include either word within the document (*slip* or *fall*).

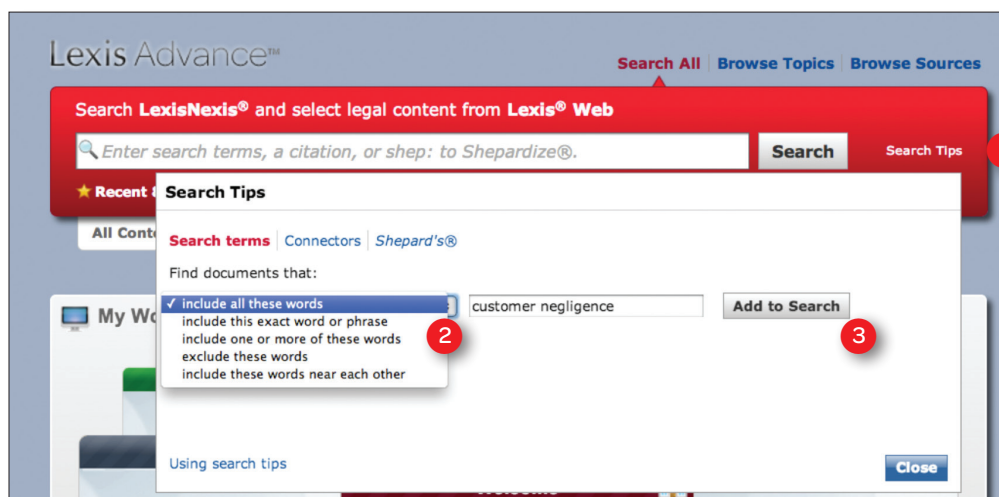**and**—finds documents that use both words (documents with both *slip* and *fall*).

w/#—includes words appearing within # words of each other (slip w/3 fall finds *slip* within 3 words of *fall*).

!—is a root expander that replaces characters at the end of the word (negligen! finds negligence and negligent).

atl#—finds documents that use the word you are looking for # amount of time. For example, atl3(customer) finds documents that use customer three times.

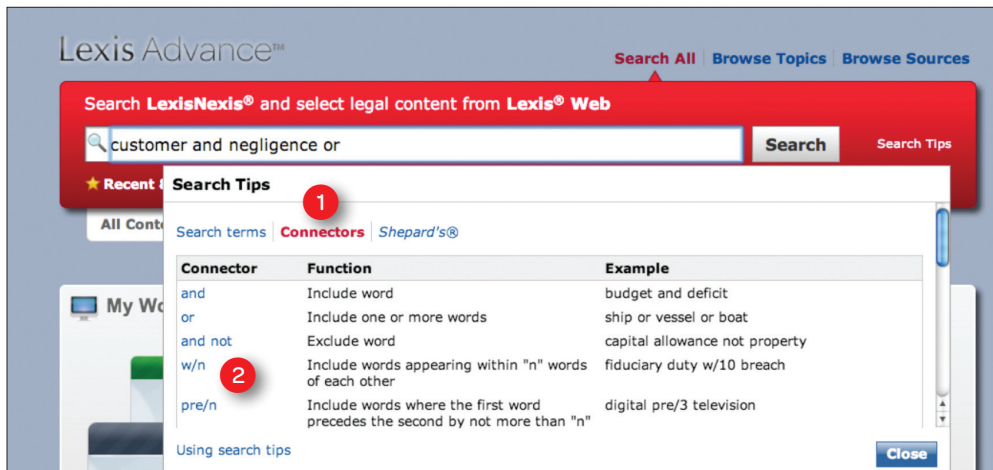### Learning terms and connectors

Learning terms and connectors has never been easier using Search Tips, exclusively available on the Lexis Advance service. Let Lexis Advance build your search for you! Simply click **Search Tips** and use the pull-down menu to tell LexisNexis what you want to look for.
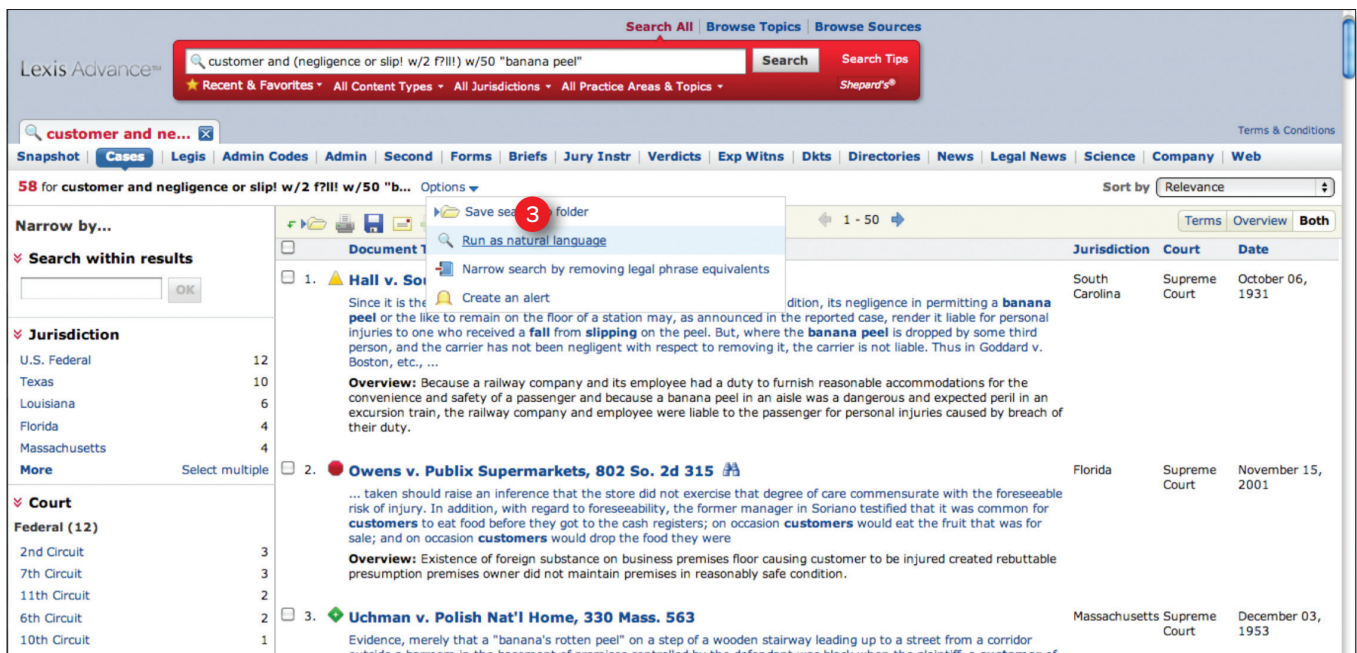
1. Start by clicking **Search Tips**.

2. Use the pull-down menu to tell LexisNexis what you want to do.

3. Click the **Add to Search** button and Lexis Advance will build your terms and connectors search.

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Search Tips *(continued)*

For a complete list of terms and connectors, click **Connectors**. Easily review the functionality of each connector and its corresponding example by scrolling through the list. When you find a connector that you want to use, simply click the blue hyperlink to quickly add it to your search query.

1. Click **Connectors**.
2. Use the hyperlinks to quickly add a connector to your search.

3. After running a search, to re-run it using a different search method, click **Options**.

Get Research Help Anytime

Contact your Account Executive or call Customer Support anytime at 800-45-LEXIS (800-455-3947)