Scavenger Hunt

When you are given a list of questions that you have to find answers in the library, analyze each question to determine the nature of the answer. What clues are present: dates, names, places, events? Watch for questions which seem to ask for an opinion, you may have to back up your answer but most questions ask you to locate facts, quotations, biographies, or statistics. The most important point is to be patient and not give up if the first place you look does not yield the answer.

Like any good detective, you will need to do the following:
Write down clues within the question
Write down where you looked and your results
Note answers that seem close but not quite correct—that resource may be worth a second look
Check tables of contents and indexes
Browse in the same area—the book you selected might not have the answer, but the one next to it could
Ask for help from the reference staff and your teacher

Where to Look First—use your handout on Basic Resources and Current Events to find call numbers and locations.

The Reference Universe database indexes a number of reference books available in the library and will also be a good starting point for information.

Factual Resources:
Almanacs: World Almanac and Book of Facts
Biography: Biography Resource Center (Electronic Resource)
Encyclopedias: World Book
Military: any encyclopedia of military history appropriate to the war
Quotations: Bartletons Familiar Quotations
Religious Questions: Call numbers starting with BL; For books on Saints check BX
Statistics: Statistical Abstract of the United States

Current Events:
Academic Search Premier: Electronic Resource
CQ Almanac
CQ Researcher: Behind the Reference Desk
CQ Weekly Report
Facts on File
Lexis Nexis Academic Universe (newspapers): Electronic Resource