Q.1-like

Scopus

Choose Authors search option
Enter author name in the E.g. format shown on screen (surname, initial)
Click + “Add additional search terms” for an additional search box.
The default “Article title, Abstract, Keywords” option is the best one for a topic search

Google Scholar

In Google Scholar using family name alone may be sufficient (i.e. often best to leave out any initials)
Alternatively, use Advanced Search (drop-down) to specify author field for the author’s name
Q.2-like

Scopus

We are told that the paper was written in 2010, so apply a date limit.

Google Scholar

Using Advanced Search
Q.3-like
Scopus
This requires setting two limits (date range and document type)

- The search can be broadened if desirable using truncation * – nanocluster* will find all words starting with the letters before the * (including the “nanocluster” itself)
- The date span can be set at this stage (easiest) or after the search is executed
- Once the result are displayed, it may be a good idea to change the sort option to

  Sort on: Cited by (highest)
SciFinder

If you have not used SciFinder before, you need to register. Go to http://canterbury.libguides.com/chem/journal-articles, read the instructions (particularly the password requirements) and then register using the “register first” link.

- It is easiest to limit by date and to Review articles at the outset using the Advanced Search dropdown.
- Unlike other databases, SciFinder works best by including prepositions in the search statement – see the equivalent example in the PDF of BCHM example searches.

You are then presented with two result candidates (for some search statements you’ll see several candidates; choose the one that best matches your topic)...
The default order of search results is by Accession Number descending, which is roughly the most recent articles at the top of the list.

Re-sorting by Citing References (how often an article is referred to by later articles) can be a good way of identifying particularly important articles in the literature for that topic search.

You may find it useful to view the short YouTube videos for SciFinder, whose links are given on the Chemistry Subject Guide under “Courses–CHEM281/BCHM281”.

Note that Q.3 cannot be readily answered using Google Scholar, as it doesn’t allow searchers to refine searches to review articles.
Q.4-like
SciFinder

Choose Explore > Substances > Substance Identifier search, via the menu at the left or the drop-down

Enter a name or identifier such as CAS number

Hover over the structure diagram to see the >> arrow, click the arrow and choose...
This gives you most of the answers required immediately; see under Regulatory Information for sources of toxicity/handling information. If you Google the New Zealand entry, you will find the document on www.epa.govt.nz

ChemSpider
As with SciFinder, there are several options to search (name, CAS Registry Number [CASRN], etc.)

Click the “Properties” tab, scroll down to Miscellaneous/Safety
ChemWatch

Find in the Chemistry Subject Guide under Material Safety Data Sheets. Again, search by name or CASRN.

In the column at the right, you can limit by Countries.

Click the Name title in the list to “render” the document.

Click the button to view the PDF.
Q.5-like

SciFinder

Choose the Explore > Research Topic search, search on the name or CASRN (CASRN is often gives better results in SciFinder if available for your topic)

It may be best to sort results by Citing References so most cited papers appear at the top of the results. Review the abstract (summary) for relevance. Click the “Other Sources” button to check for full text

Scopus

Also a good database to use. “” focus results for substances with multiple words, e.g. “ethyl acetate”

Instead of the name, Scopus also has a CAS Number search option...
Whichever way you search, sorting by times cited is often a good strategy: