A Reference Librarian...

Can recognize and welcome you in a friendly voice.

Patiently asks questions, discusses ideas with you, offers some suggestions.

Looks in books, directories, databases, newspapers, encyclopedias, consults other librarians/libraries, and also checks the Web...

Really cares, will continue working on your questions as long as it takes, never gives up, respects your rights and privacy.

Works to improve, promote, and protect your access to all forms of information.

A Search Engine...

Gives you a search box.

Quickly displays thousands or millions of websites, along with some ads.

Tries to show you possible matches only in those parts of the Web it can see and search, sometimes asks “Did you mean…?”

Does not care or remember, does not feel bad if you cannot find what you need, might track you or share your searches with strangers.

Is usually a business which must make profits and sell advertising space.

Don’t just settle for a search engine! Get the best of both worlds… Libraries + Search Engines = Ask a librarian! You will be so glad you did!