OPAC searching for foreign language learning materials

Keyword searching for a patron interested in foreign language materials (say, a DVD or CD) can be quite difficult. Among other challenges DVD’s now come equipped with several language options so almost all new movies will appear in your search results. In this case your best friend is the subject heading. Some examples are as follows: French Language -- Self Instruction, Italian Language -- Self-Instruction, English Language -- Self Instruction, etc. But don’t forget about Mango, it’s user-friendly and provides a comprehensive learning experience.

The OPAC home screen, “Subject” is below “Keyword” on the drop down menu...

Type the language you need followed by the phrase “language self instruction”. Press the submit button.

For more information or other reference and collection development assistance, call the Reference & Information Desk at Adriance Memorial Library at (845) 485-3445 or (800) 804-0092, extension 3702.
Here is the result. That particular subject heading shows 113 results. Click that one.

Here are all 113 results.
If you wanted to further limit your results, click on the cog wheel icon. (To select a particular library just chose one from the drop down list under “All libraries” on the initial the search screen, or use the drop down on this screen and press search, not sort. That will bring you back to a results list of subject headings—presumably, now smaller—just click the heading again to get the results from that specific library.

Using the “Limit/Sort Search” feature we limited the subject heading, *English Language – Self Instruction* to ones that just have “Russian” in the title. This gave us titles for Russian speakers looking for English language instruction (keep in mind Mango can provide English language instruction in almost any language including Russian).