

English 101 Library Research – Part 1 - Topic Proposal Preliminary Research

This exercise is designed to get you thinking about your topic and preliminary research steps as you prepare your topic proposal. Part 1 of this document should be submitted with your English 101 topic proposal. You are asked to choose a topic, narrow the focus, and complete some topic exploration using basic library resources. You also have the opportunity below to keep track of specific questions you would like to ask the librarian during the English 101 library instruction session. **Please note:** Part 1 of this worksheet should be submitted to your English 101 Instructor with your Topic Proposal assignment. Part 2 (reverse side) will be completed during the library instruction session.

Prior to completing this worksheet and attending the English 101 Library Instruction session, you will need to go to the main library website at: <http://lib.sdstate.edu> and click TOPIC GUIDES under RESEARCH ASSISTANCE. Next, click ENGLISH 101 RESOURCES. This web page is a compilation of resources useful for research in English 101. This web page will also help you complete this worksheet.

1. I have identified the following research question as a specific focus for my paper:

2. The English 101 Resources library web page (<http://lib.sdstate.edu/infolit/English101.htm>) provides information on generating search terms. After you have reviewed the information on the web page, use your research question identified above to generate some keywords and search terms. List your keywords/search terms here:

3. The Library Catalog allows you to search for books, videos and government documents available via Briggs Library. Access the Library Catalog from the main library website: <http://lib.sdstate.edu>. Click BOOKS under FIND. Using a few of the search terms you generated above, go to the Library Catalog, and do a basic search for your topic. Write your search strategy here (the keywords you used and how you typed them):

List three *specific* resources that you have found through the library catalog that may be useful to your research. Write the call number (OR electronic location for e-books, online documents, etc.)

Source Title

Call Number/Electronic Location

4. Your class will soon meet with a librarian to discuss research techniques. What questions, general or specific, would you like to ask the librarian about how to proceed with your project?

REMEMBER TO SUBMIT ONLY PART 1 OF THIS WORKSHEET COMPLETE WITH YOUR TOPIC PROPOSAL!

English 101 – Part 2 – In-Class Library Instruction Exercise (to be completed during library instruction session).

Using the AND/OR and wildcard (*) strategies the librarian discussed today, write 2-3 search strategies for your research topic: (for example: academic achievement AND college athlet*)

Enter one of the searches above in the EBSCOhost database. How many items are in the results list? _____
How many of these are:

Academic Journals? _____ **Magazines?** _____ **Newspapers?** _____

Copy the complete citation for one article:

Author(s): _____.

Title of the Article: _____.

Title of the Periodical (journal, magazine, newspaper):

_____.

Volume Number: ____ **Issue Number:** ____ **Date of Publication:** _____ **Pages:** _____.

Is this article full-text in Ebscohost? _____.

Typically, if the article is available full-text in a database, you do not need to consult the Journals List. However, for today's exercise, practice using the Journals List to determine if the library owns the Periodical (magazine, journal, newspaper) in print or electronic format. Access the Journals List via the library's homepage and locate:

Periodical Title: _____.

Does the library subscribe to this periodical? _____.

If YES, write down the call number OR name of one electronic resource where you can locate the periodical?

_____.

English 101 Resource Guide Online at: <http://lib.sdstate.edu/infolit/English101.htm>

Remember - Librarians are available to assist you at the Library Services Desk!

Stop by, call, e-mail if you need assistance:

Phone: (605)688-5107

E-Mail: blref@sdstate.edu



on the main library homepage for assistance via live chat.