

Name: _____ Class Period: _____

Date: _____

Part 1: Pre-Research and Essential Questions

1. What's your TOPIC?
2. What's your current OPINION on this topic?

Pre-research is done to familiarize yourself with your TOPIC. Once you have some basic information you can begin to form ideas and opinions about your topic.

3. Briefly, what is your strongest argument SUPPORTING your opinion?

4. What are some other arguments SUPPORTING your opinion?

5. What is one argument AGAINST your opinion?

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To create an ESSENTIAL QUESTION think about the answers to the previous questions. Then, follow some of the advice below to create your EQ.

Do

- include your topic idea
- focus on a narrow part of the topic
- incorporate your main opinion
- you might include a counter-argument
- question may use the word “should”

Don't

- ask a YES/NO question
- stop at the larger TOPIC—it's too big!
- focus on the “fringe” arguments, you might not find enough information to support your opinion

Here are some examples of ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS. Some are “good” and some “not-so-good”.

Example 1: YES!

How has the World Trade Organization disenfranchised small farmers in South Korea since the enforcement of the Agricultural Agreement?

Example 2: NO!

Is the World Trade Organization bad for farmers?

Example 3: NO!

Is human-trafficking a problem?

Example 4: YES!

What is the United States doing to stop the trafficking of children in the sex trade in Southeast Asia?

Create your OWN essential question. It can be in draft form....

Par

You

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2-3 electronic resources

Title:
Author:
Call Number:
Other:

A PRINT RESOURCE is any informational material that is PRINTED—this includes

- books
- magazines
- encyclopedias
- newspapers
- atlases
- journals
- flyers
- pamphlets

An ELECTRONIC RESOURCE is any informational material that can be found ON-LINE—this includes

- websites
- databases
- web-based newspapers, journals and newspapers
- government information sites

Some RESOURCES can be found ON-LINE, but the “count” like a PRINT resource. This includes materials found on magazine DATABASES such as PROQUEST.

Although a bibliography requires exact documentation of several “features”, at the beginning it is important to write down some KEY FEATURES about your resources:

BOOK/PRINT Resource

- title of book/article
- author’s name
- call number (on spine of book)

ELECTRONIC Resource

- title of webpage and/or website
- creator’s name (person or organization)
- URL [www.websiteurl.com/]

Write down the reference information for your sources in the chart below. Remember, you will need at least two sources that are print materials.

Print Resource 1:

Print Resource 2:

Title:
Author:
Call Number:
Other:

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Print Resource 3:

Electronic Resource 1:

Electronic Resource 2:

Electronic Resource 3:

Title:
Author:
Call Number:
Other:

Website/Webpage Title:
Creator:
URL (top level domain):
Other:

Website/Webpage Title:
Creator:
URL (top level domain):
Other:

Website/Webpage Title:
Creator:
URL (top level domain):
Other: