Developing Your Research Question

In order for you to complete your research package, you will need to develop a Research Question and several Foundation Questions. Use the chart to the right to help you develop the questions you will need to ask in order to effectively complete your research.

Your goal is to have your questions fall into the EVALUATE category. Try to avoid using FACTUAL questions as your main research question and your foundation questions. You will need to know the facts, but the main focus of your work should be to EVALUATE.

Question Chart

	Is Are	Did Do Does	Can	Would Should	Will	Might Could
Who						
What	Factual			Predict		
Where						
When						
Why	Analyze			Evaluate		
How						

Example Questions

Factual Questions
- *Who is* the Prime Minister of Canada?
- *What did* soldiers wear in WW1?
- *Where do* penguins live?
- *When did* the first moon landing happen?

Prediction Questions
- *Who should* be the Prime Minister of Canada?
- *What could* the soldiers have worn to better protect them in WW1?
- *Where will* penguins feel the effects of global warming?
- *When should* the next moon landing occur?

Analyze Questions
- *Why does* Canada elect a Prime Minister every four years?
- *How did* the soldiers combat lice in their uniforms in WW1?
- *Why are* some penguins a threatened species?
- *How does* research on the moon deepen our understanding of space?

Evaluate Questions
- *How could* Canada change its election system?
- *How will* soldiers' uniforms in the future better protect them from injury?
- *Why should* we care about the survival of penguins?
- *Why might* our understanding of the moon enable us to live on Mars?

Higher Order Thinking

Question Suggestions

What makes …	How can we defend….
If …. how …	To what extent …
If …. then …	In what ways …
If … which …	How might …
What should ….	How do we know if …
Should …	How is …. different from …
How should …	How does (did) …. change (affect) …
How can …	What problems (issues) …
How could …	What are (were) the effects of …
Could …	What are (were) the results of
Why do … Why does … Why is …	Why is …. important
How do … How does… How did … How will …	What happens (happened) when …
What is the best way …	What procedures …
What are the best examples of …	What actions …
What if …	What changes need to be made to …
Which … OR Which of …	What is (was) the role of …
What are …. with the most …	What is (was) the difference between …
What are ….. with the least …	What causes (caused) …
What are the most …	How did …. decide to ….
What are the least …	Why did …. decide to …
Is (was) … justified	What is (was) the relationship between …

Research Question

Your main research question should:

- Explore a matter of considerable importance

- Provoke an examination of ideas worth knowing and thinking about

- Not be answered by a quick and simple yes or no answer

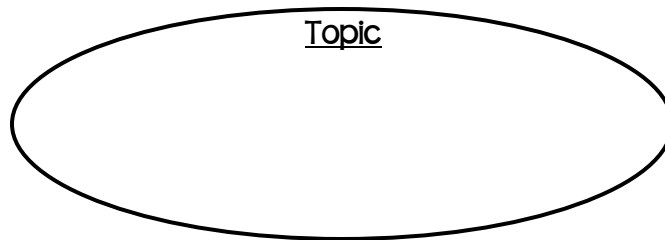- Shift and evolve with time and changing conditions

An essential question makes you do one or more of the following types of deep thinking:

Comparing, observing, classifying, hypothesizing, interpreting data, evaluating, deciding, creating, applying principles to new situations, analyzing, synthesizing, building or inventing, persuading or convincing, predicting, challenging, figuring out, wondering, understanding, speculating, imagining

SRT Library Research Planner

Name: _____

Research Topic:

Topic

Big Question I Need to Answer:

SRT Library Research Planner

Research Topic:

What I Already Know:

What I Wonder:

What I Need to Learn:

Big Question I Need to Answer:

SRT Library Research Planner

Name: _____

Research Topic:

Big Research Question I Need to Answer:

Using your notes from your brainstorming, identify at least 5-8 FOUNDATION QUESTIONS you need to answer in order to complete your research project. Try to think through all the aspects of your topic and write your ideas out in the form of a question.

1. _____

   _____

2. _____

   _____

3. _____

   _____

4. _____

   _____

5. _____

   _____

6. _____

   _____

7. _____

   _____

8. _____

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- Transfer your questions to the Research Organizers
- Write the answers to your questions in point form (7-10 words maximum!)

SRT Library Research Record

Name: _____

Main Research Question:

Foundation Question:

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Sources:

Other:

Foundation Question:

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SRT Library Research Record

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SRT Library Research Record

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SRT Library Research Record

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Sources:

SRT Library Research Record

Name: _____

Main Research Question:

Foundation Question:

Sources:

Foundation Question:

Sources:

Name: _____   Class: _____   Date:_____

Bibliography Template
Be sure to copy the exact formatting into your Bibliography Good Copy.
All of the punctuation shown in the example needs to be included on your Good Copy.

Website Without Author

"Article Title".	Date–D/M/Y	(URL–Internet Site Address)

Example: "I Love Library Time". 17 Nov. 2012. (www.ilovelibrarytime.com)

Website With Author

Author.	"Article Title"	Date– D/M/Y	(URL–Internet Site Address)

Example: Reading, Terry. "I Love Library Time". 17 Nov. 2012. (www.ilovelibrarytime.com)

Book

Author.	(Year).	Title	City:	Publisher.

Example: Smith, R. L. (2012) The Top 10 Libraries in the World. New York: Penguin Publishing

Encyclopedia

Author.	(Year).	Article Title	Encyclopedia Title	(Vol / Pages).

Example: Foster, Christopher (2012) "Libraries" World Book Encyclopedia (Vol. 8 p. 345-348)

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