

# PART ONE

## Directions Sheet

The goal of Part One of your I-Search is for you to establish what knowledge you already have about your topic before doing any research. Part One of your I-Search will be two paragraphs in length. First, you will explain why you picked your topic. Second, you will explain everything you know about your topic at this point in the project.

**Paragraph One:** Write a paragraph explaining what your topic is for the I-Search paper and why you chose your topic. Also, include in this paragraph who is in your group and what are the topics of your group members.

**Paragraph Two:** Write a paragraph about everything you know about your topic (this could be a short or long paragraph depending on your prior knowledge).

- Think about who, what, when, and where
- Have you ever heard about this topic before? Tell us about this.

Some students may know very little about their topic, while others may know a great deal. If you know nothing or very little about your topic, use a textbook or online encyclopedia to get some basic information to help you write your second paragraph.

### Example

Paragraph 1:

The topic that I got for A Walk Through the Middle Ages is....

- Why did you choose this topic?
- Are you happy with your topic?
- Did all of you agree on topic choices?
- Who is in your group?
- What are their topics?

Paragraph 2:

What I know about \_\_\_\_\_ (your topic) is...

- What do you already know about your topic?
- When did you learn this? Example: *"I learned this in elementary school, my family went on a trip to this area, I watched a TV show that said this..."*
- If you didn't know anything, did you have to look it up? / What did you learn?
- What are you looking forward to as you begin this project?