

Name _____

Period _____

Topic _____

Due _____

PART TWO

Directions Sheet

Part Two is what makes an I-Search paper different than a traditional research paper. In Part Two, you will be asking three questions that you will then go find the answers through extensive research. The goal of Part Two is to ask questions that will guide your research to find specific answers. Your task is to come up with good questions that will eventually lead you to a strong paper. If your questions can be answered with a one sentence answer, or if the question is too simple, then it is not a good question. If you have weak or poor questions then your paper will be weak and poor.

It is important to remember that your research is focused towards answering the questions that you asked and not simply gathering all the information you can find. Think of questions that will give you the “big idea” of your topic. Each question should have multiple paragraph answers.

Question #1 – This first question of your I-Search paper should contain general information about the society in which your topic is located and how your topic fits into that society. This first question will provide the background information needed to set the stage for when you ask more specific questions in questions 2 and 3.

- **Example (People):** What was European society like in the Middle Ages? Who was Marco Polo what did he do that made him famous?
- **Example (Cities / Places):** Who were the Aztecs and where was Tenochtitlan? What made this city unique?
- **Example (Professions):** How was Japanese medieval society organized and what was the role samurai played in feudal Japan?
- **Example (Religions):** What are the fundamental principles of the religion of Islam? How did this religion begin and what are some of the main people associated with this religion?
- **Example (Events):** What was European society like in the Middle Ages? What was the Black Death and when and where did it occur during the Middle Ages?
- **Example (General):** How was society in medieval Europe organized and how was warfare a part of that society? What were some of the weapons used in medieval Europe?
- **Example: (General):** What was West African society like in the Middle Ages? What were some of the common foods eaten in West Africa and how were they prepared?

Questions #2 - #3– The rest of your questions should deal with such things as:

- Impact on society
 - Change over time
 - Comparison to other topics that are similar
 - Different points of view
 - Cause and effect
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- **Example:** How is Michelangelo's art both similar and different to other Renaissance artists such as Leonardo da Vinci and Raphael?
 - **Example:** What impact did Hernan Cortes have on the lives of the Aztec people?
 - **Example:** How was food of the Americas similar and different to food of Asia during the Middle Ages?
 - **Example:** How did weapons in medieval Asia change over time and what impact did these changes have on society?
 - **Example:** How was Kublai Khan viewed differently by both the Mongols and the Chinese (different points of view)?
 - **Example:** How did the Black Death (cause) impact European society to change (effect) in the Middle Ages?
 - **Example:** How is Buddhism similar and different today then it was in Asia during the Middle Ages?
 - **Example:** What were some major Arab scientific inventions in the Middle Ages and how have they impacted the world?

Examples of Bad questions:

- **Example:** What was their clothing like?
- **Example:** Was Joan of Arc married?
- **Example:** How did Genghis Khan die?
- **Example:** Who invented medicine in Asia?
- **Example:** What was the best castle ever built?
- **Example:** Who built the Eiffel Tower in medieval Paris?

Part Two Worksheet

Categories for Questions

Specific Topics	General Topics
<ul style="list-style-type: none">● People<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Genghis Khan○ Mansa Musa○ Johannes Gutenberg○ Leonardo da Vinci○ The Samurai○ Charlemagne○ The Vikings○ Queen Isabella I○ Ferdinand Magellan● Cities / Places<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Tenochtitlan○ London○ Machu Picchu○ Great Wall○ Silk Road○ Notre Dame Cathedral● Professions<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Guilds○ Masons○ Merchants○ Trade & Travel○ Monks○ Kings & Queens○ Lords○ Servants & Jesters○ Knights● Religions<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Christianity○ Islam○ Judaism○ Buddhism● Event<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Black Death○ Crusades○ Hundred Years War & Battle of Hastings	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Weapons & Armor● Warfare● Castles● Castle Construction● Attacking & Defending Castle● Festivals & Fairs● Sports & Games● Music & Instruments● Fine Arts & Recreation● Food● Clothing● Women & Children● Architecture & Buildings● Social Classes● Math & Science● Science & Inventions● Medicine● Education & Literature● Religious Art & Stained Glass● Monasteries● Medieval Law & Justice● Medieval Medicine● Viking Ships● Manors● Books & Manuscripts● Printing● Herladry

My Part Two Worksheet

(General Information)

Question #1 _____

(Questions that contain depth and complexity)

- Impact on society
- Change over time
- Comparison to other topics that are similar
- Different points of view
- Cause and effect

Question #2 _____

Question #3 _____
