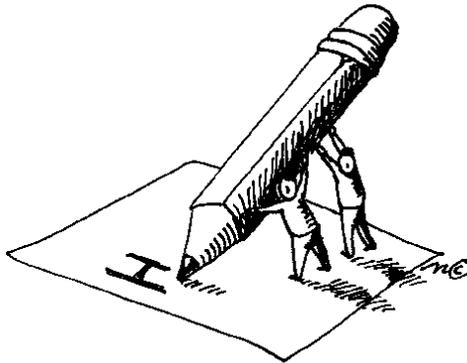


I-Search Lecture



What is an I-Search?

An I-Search is a paper in which “I” learn about a subject and how to do real research!

Why is there an “I” in I-Search?

Because it is your own personal search. No two I-Search papers are alike.

How is an I-Search different from other research papers you have done in the past?

It is your perspective. It details the process you used to get the information about your topic. It is organized differently. It is student centered.

What are the five major sections of an I-Search paper?

Part 1 – Everything you know about your topic before you do research in the library and a few guesses.
Part 2 – Everything you want to know about your topic (questions)
Part 3 – The answers to my questions (the research)
Part 4 – How I found the answers to my questions and what I learned about doing research (the process)
Part 5 – Works cited (bibliography)

When and why will I do part 1?

You will do part 1 of your I-Search paper before you go into the library to do research. You will do this so you can show what you already about your topic (prior knowledge).

When and why will I do part 2?

You will do part 2 of the paper after you do part 1. **This is the most important part of the paper because if you do not have good questions you will not have a good paper!** In order to do a good job, make sure your questions cannot be answered by simple one sentence answers. Strive to have multiple part questions. You will be doing part 2 so you already know what you are looking for before you go into the library.

When and why will I do part 3?

You will do part 3 once you have finished writing good questions. This is the largest part of your paper in that it will contain all the information you are looking for in your questions. All of your questions will be answered in this part of your paper as well as any additional information you come across that you think is interesting as you do research. **For each question you will need to write a thesis statement that you support with the information found during research.** This will help you organize your information before you write part 3 and enable you to write a more concise and comprehensible paper.

When and why will I do part 4?

You will do part 4 of your I-Search paper **as you do part 3.** You have to write about how you found the answers to your questions as you do your research. You will also complete a portion of part 4 after you have finished part 3 by reflecting on what you learned about yourself as a researcher. Part 4 allows you to really reflect on the purpose of this paper, which is to not only learn about a specific topic, but more importantly learn how to do good research (a skill you will need for many years to come).

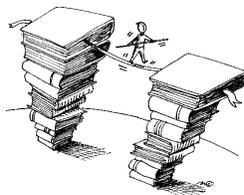
When and why will I do part 5?

Part 5 of your I-Search paper will be done when you are finished with part 3 of your paper. Nevertheless you should note that as you do your research and try to answer your questions, you should be documenting all of the books, websites, and encyclopedias you use to answer your questions. You have a sample bibliography in your La Colina agenda but we will also go over how to create one in class as well.

Does my paper have to be typed?

All I-Search papers must be typed.

- Use 12 -14 point font.
- Times New Roman or Arial font
- Double spaced
- 1 inch margins
- Cover page with the following information
 - Name, Date, Period, Teacher
 - Heading: "A Walk Through the Middle Ages"
 - Your topic
 - Picture of your topic



What words of wisdom can my teachers give me before I begin?

STAY ORGANIZED AND DON'T PROCRASTINATE!
Type as you do research. Don't wait until the last minute.
Always save your files in more than one spot.