

# Research Paper Guidelines

**RATIONALE:** The research paper is an important part of this course's curriculum. By completing this assignment, you will learn valuable skills that can be applied to other classes, to college, and to your career field. Skill areas that this assignment focuses on include: finding and evaluating sources of information, reading for information, note taking, organizing information, outlining, word processing skills, and public speaking.

Please note the due dates for each part of the research paper will be posted in SeeSaw.. There will be class time to work on each assignment. However, you may find it necessary to also work on this project outside of class in order to meet each due date. You have up to the stated due date to turn in each part of the project. Assignments turned in after a due date will not receive credit unless there are extenuating circumstances.

## REQUIREMENTS:

- You must have 10 Annotated Bibliography Entries for your paper.
- Your paper must be a minimum of 5 pages, typed and double-spaced. You must submit the final paper in Writable.
- The paper must be completely in APA format, including the Reference page and the in-text citations.
- In order to avoid plagiarism, you must properly cite your sources both in the essay itself and the References page. NO AI will be accepted, or all grades will be a zero.
- **Research Portfolio Final Submission == Two Test Grades \*\* Mandatory submission in ARCHIE**

## GRADING SCALE:

- Topic/subtopic sheet: 10 points	Due:
- 10 sources sheet(s): 15 points	Due:
- Annotated Bibliography: 50 points	Due:
- Outline: 25 points	Due:
- Rough draft: 40 points	Due:
- Peer editing: 10 Points	Due:
- Final Draft: 50 points	Due:
- Research Portfolio Submitted: 100 Points	Due:

# Research Paper Expectations **Checklist**

Throughout the unit, use the following checklist to ensure you have met all of the components of the research essay. If you have questions about any of the assignments, please do not hesitate to ask.

- Topic Sheet Due \_\_\_\_\_
  - ✓ What is the topic you selected?
  - ✓ Can you develop an additional 5 subtopics on the topic?
  - ✓ Is the topic narrow enough to create a clear and concise essay?
  - ✓ Is your topic researchable?
  - ✓ Can you find scholarly sources on your topic?
- 10 Source Sheets Due \_\_\_\_\_
  - ✓ Do you have all 10 sources?
  - ✓ Looking at the information you gathered, can you use at least 5 sources in your essay?
  - ✓ Are your sources academic and scholarly?
  - ✓ Do you have enough information for each of your subtopics?
  - ✓ Do you need to do additional research? If so, for which subtopics?
- Annotated Bibliography Due \_\_\_\_\_
  - ✓ Do you understand the importance of an annotated bibliography?
  - ✓ Have you selected 5 of your 10 sources to complete the annotated bibliography?
  - ✓ Are each of your annotations a minimum of  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a page?
  - ✓ Do your annotations effectively summarize the significance of the sources you selected for the assignment?
  - ✓ Do your annotations effectively explain how you plan on using the article within your essay?
- Outline Due \_\_\_\_\_
  - ✓ Does your outline include a minimum of 5 subcategories?
  - ✓ Is your outline detailed, with direct quotes, facts, and statistics that support your topic?
  - ✓ Does your outline include in-text citations?
  - ✓ Does your outline include information from at least 5 sources?
  - ✓ Does your outline prepare you to write your rough draft?
- Rough Draft Due \_\_\_\_\_
  - ✓ Does your rough draft follow your outline?
  - ✓ Does your rough draft include a minimum of 5 properly cited sources?
  - ✓ Are your sources synthesized throughout your essay?
  - ✓ Were you able to meet the page requirements based off the research you did?
  - ✓ If not, what additional research do you need to complete?
- Final Draft Due \_\_\_\_\_
  - ✓ Did you make the appropriate changes to your final draft based on the feedback you received on your rough draft?
  - ✓ Does your final draft meet all of the expectations found on the rubric?

# Research Essay Rubric

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

CATEGORY	10-8	7-5	4-3	2-0
Organization	Information is very organized with well-constructed paragraphs and subheadings.	Information is organized with well-constructed paragraphs.	Information is organized, but paragraphs are not well-constructed.	The information appears to be disorganized. 8)
Quality of Information	Information clearly relates to the main topic. It includes several supporting details and/or examples.	Information clearly relates to the main topic. It provides 1-2 supporting details and/or examples.	Information clearly relates to the main topic. No details and/or examples are given.	Information has little or nothing to do with the main topic.
Sources	All sources (information and graphics) are accurately documented in the desired format.	All sources (information and graphics) are accurately documented, but a few are not in the desired format.	All sources (information and graphics) are accurately documented, but many are not in the desired format.	Some sources are not accurately documented.
Mechanics	No grammatical, spelling or punctuation errors.	Almost no grammatical, spelling or punctuation errors	A few grammatical, spelling, or punctuation errors.	Many grammatical, spelling, or punctuation errors.
Paragraph Construction	All paragraphs include introductory sentence, explanations or details, and concluding sentence.	Most paragraphs include introductory sentence, explanations or details, and concluding sentence.	Paragraphs included related information but were typically not constructed well.	Paragraphing structure was not clear and sentences were not typically related within the paragraphs.

Total: \_\_\_\_\_/50

Teacher Comments:

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# Selecting a Topic

When choosing your research topic, you should make sure you select something that is narrow, researchable, and manageable. On the following page, you will begin to map out three potential research topics that meet these expectations. From there, you will select one of the three to focus on.

## Essay questions

### Technology category:

Which piece of technology will have the greatest impact in the near future and why?

### Science category:

Describe a recent scientific breakthrough you consider important.



# Narrowing the Topic

Once you've selected your topic, you'll need to determine how the main topic can be broken into a minimum of 5 subcategories. If the subcategories seem too broad, you may consider using a subcategory as your main topic and breaking it down. For example, if the topic I select is "Early Childhood Education" to begin with and my subcategories include "student learning styles, influential figures, activities/techniques, brain development of children, and classroom management techniques" I would quickly realize that my topic is too broad. I could easily write an entire essay on each of those subcategories. Therefore, I could narrow my topic by selecting just "Student Learning Styles" and breaking it down into 5 subtopics: kinesthetic, visual, verbal, auditory, and social.

**Ask yourself the following question once you've selected a topic: Would I produce a more precise essay if I focused on one of the subcategories as my main topic? If so, how would I break it into sections?**

# BRAINSTORMING

When selecting your research topic, think of current events, social issues, laws, trending topics, history, and/or influential people. Then, select three that are narrow, researchable, and

Topic 1:	Topic 2:	Topic 3:
Break the topic into 5 subcategories:	Break the topic into 5 subcategories:	Break the topic into 5 subcategories:
Is this topic narrow, researchable, and manageable?	Is this topic narrow, researchable, and manageable?	Is this topic narrow, researchable, and manageable?
Teacher approval:	Teacher approval:	Teacher approval:

manageable. Fill in the chart below with potential ideas.

Current Events	Social Issues	Laws/ Gov't Issues	Trending Topics	History	Influential People
EX: ISIS	EX: Gay Rights	Ex: Gun Control	Ex: Entitlement in professional sports	Ex: The role of the USMC in the Civil War	Ex: John Dewey's impact on education

# Topic Selection Graphic Organizer

Use the following organizer to brainstorm potential topics for your essay.

Final topic selection:

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Why did you choose this topic? Explain how the topic is narrow, researchable, and manageable.

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## Final Research Paper **Topic Sheet** (10 pts)

1.) The topic of my research paper is:

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2.) I chose this topic because:

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3.) Five potential subcategories of my main topic could be:

a.

b.

c.

d.

e.

4.) Subtopics for each of my subcategories include:

- a.
- b.
- c.
- d.

5.) Additional questions I want answered about my topic are:

- a.
- b.
- c.

**\*\*Once your topic is approved, you can begin looking for your sources!**

# Final Research Paper Topic Sheet **EXAMPLE**

- 1.) The topic of my research paper is: Educational Learning Styles
- 2.) I chose this topic because: As a teacher, it is important for me to know and understand the different learning styles of my students. I find the topic interesting and researchable.
- 3.) Five potential subcategories of my main topic could be:
  - a. Kinesthetic learning
  - b. Visual learning
  - c. Verbal learning
  - d. Auditory learning
  - e. Social learning
- 4.) Subtopics for each of my subcategories include:
  - f. Basic definition/purpose
  - g. Types of activities that appeal to each of the learners
  - h. How the brain works/develops
  - i. What the learner needs to be successful in the classroom
- 5.) Additional questions I want answered about my topic are:
  - j. What is the main difference between each of the learning styles?
  - k. Are there additional learning styles that I am missing?
  - l. At what age can a person's learning style be determined?

**\*\*Once your topic is approved, you can begin looking for your sources!**



# The Research Process

- Now that you have selected your research topic, it is time to begin researching. The sources you select must be academic, with two(2) scholarly sources to cover all of your subcategories.

- Define an academic article:

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- How can you identify an academic article?

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- What are examples of articles that are NOT considered academic?

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- What databases can you use to find academic articles? Share three (3)

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- Define scholarly article:

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- How can you identify a scholarly article?

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- What are examples of articles that are NOT considered scholarly?

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- What databases can you use to find scholarly articles?

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**You are required to record information from 10 sources. However, you are only required to cite 5 in your essay (unless you need all 10). On the next 10 pages, you should fill out the appropriate information which will help you create your APA formatted Works Cited page at the end of your essay. The bottom half of the page should be filled completely. The more research you find, the easier it will be to write your rough draft.**

Topics to research:	
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## Research Essay Sources | Annotated Bibliography

Source #1: APA citation formatted [copy from your SCRIBBR list]

Source #1: What subtopic does this source belong to:

\_\_\_\_\_

Title of Article: \_\_\_\_\_

Title of Website: \_\_\_\_\_

Author: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Publication: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Access (today's date): \_\_\_\_\_

Publisher: \_\_\_\_\_

Page Numbers Used (If applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

Information/Direct Quotes/Statistics:

Source #2: APA citation formatted [copy from your SCRIBBR list]

Source #2: What subtopic does this source belong to:

\_\_\_\_\_

Title of Article: \_\_\_\_\_

Title of Website: \_\_\_\_\_

Author: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Publication: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Access (today's date): \_\_\_\_\_

Publisher: \_\_\_\_\_

Page Numbers Used (If applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

Information/Direct Quotes/Statistics:

Source #3: APA citation formatted [copy from your SCRIBBR list]

Source #3: What subtopic does this source belong to:

\_\_\_\_\_

Title of Article: \_\_\_\_\_

Title of Website: \_\_\_\_\_

Author: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Publication: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Access (today's date): \_\_\_\_\_

Publisher: \_\_\_\_\_

Page Numbers Used (If applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

Information/Direct Quotes/Statistics:

Source #4: APA citation formatted [copy from your SCRIBBR list]

Source #4: What subtopic does this source belong to:

\_\_\_\_\_

Title of Article: \_\_\_\_\_

Title of Website: \_\_\_\_\_

Author: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Publication: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Access (today's date): \_\_\_\_\_

Publisher: \_\_\_\_\_

Page Numbers Used (If applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

Information/Direct Quotes/Statistics:

Source #5: APA citation formatted [copy from your SCRIBBR list]

Source #5: What subtopic does this source belong to:

\_\_\_\_\_

Title of Article: \_\_\_\_\_

Title of Website: \_\_\_\_\_

Author: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Publication: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Access (today's date): \_\_\_\_\_

Publisher: \_\_\_\_\_

Page Numbers Used (If applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

Information/Direct Quotes/Statistics:

Source #6: APA citation formatted [copy from your SCRIBBR list]

Source #6: What subtopic does this source belong to:

\_\_\_\_\_

Title of Article: \_\_\_\_\_

Title of Website: \_\_\_\_\_

Author: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Publication: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Access (today's date): \_\_\_\_\_

Publisher: \_\_\_\_\_

Page Numbers Used (If applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

Information/Direct Quotes/Statistics:



Source #7: APA citation formatted [copy from your SCRIBBR list]

Source #7: What subtopic does this source belong to:

\_\_\_\_\_

Title of Article: \_\_\_\_\_

Title of Website: \_\_\_\_\_

Author: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Publication: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Access (today's date): \_\_\_\_\_

Publisher: \_\_\_\_\_

Page Numbers Used (If applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

Information/Direct Quotes/Statistics:

Source #8: APA citation formatted [copy from your SCRIBBR list]

Source #8: What subtopic does this source belong to:

\_\_\_\_\_

Title of Article: \_\_\_\_\_

Title of Website: \_\_\_\_\_

Author: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Publication: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Access (today's date): \_\_\_\_\_

Publisher: \_\_\_\_\_

Page Numbers Used (If applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

Information/Direct Quotes/Statistics:

Source #9: APA citation formatted [copy from your SCRIBBR list]

Source #9: What subtopic does this source belong to:

\_\_\_\_\_

Title of Article: \_\_\_\_\_

Title of Website: \_\_\_\_\_

Author: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Publication: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Access (today's date): \_\_\_\_\_

Publisher: \_\_\_\_\_

Page Numbers Used (If applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

Information/Direct Quotes/Statistics:

Source #10: APA citation formatted [copy from your SCRIBBR list]

Source #10: What subtopic does this source belong to:

\_\_\_\_\_

Title of Article: \_\_\_\_\_

Title of Website: \_\_\_\_\_

Author: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Publication: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Access (today's date): \_\_\_\_\_

Publisher: \_\_\_\_\_

Page Numbers Used (If applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

Information/Direct Quotes/Statistics:

## Annotated Bibliography Internet Scavenger Hunt

- Task One: Visit the OWL Purdue website and read the definition, format, and purpose of annotated bibliographies. Then, summarize each category in 3-5 words.  
<http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/614/01/>
- Read the article on paraphrasing provided by the OWL Purdue website. Then, paraphrase the entire passage. \*Paraphrasing is an essential aspect of annotated bibliographies. <http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/563/02/>
- Review SCRIBBR recommendations for an APA style Annted Bibliography.  
<https://www.scribbr.com/citing-sources/annotated-bibliography/>

Then set up an annotated bibliography in a Good Notes or Google Doc file.

**THE RESEARCH PAPER MUST HAVE A PROPER APA REFERENCE PAGE WITH ACCURATE IN-TEXT CITATIONS. MAKE SURE YOU HAVE JOINED SCRIBBR AND SAVE A FILE CALLED "MY RESEARCH ESSAY 2024"**

**Academic Articles for “Science in the News” and Research Information:**

<https://www.midmich.edu/student-resources/lis/library/find-articles/academic-articles>

**Florida Virtual Library (links to Gale Databases use “magazines”)**

<https://galesupport.com/state/fel/?survey=yes>

**Student Science**

[www.scientificteen.org](http://www.scientificteen.org)

**Science News**

(you should join for the free account, or it will be hard to navigate on the iPad.)

<https://www.sciencenews.org>

**Publisher: Student Science: A Resource of the Society for Science & the Public 2000- 2014**

<https://student.societyforscience.org/>

The “Science News for Students” section is great! Check it out!

<https://student.societyforscience.org/sciencenews-students>

**Google Scholar**

<https://scholar.google.com/>

**New Scientist** Publisher: Reed Business Information, Ltd.

<http://www.newscientist.com/>

The tech section is great!

<http://www.newscientist.com/section/tech>

**Science** (a magazine that is also available online)

**Publisher: American Association for the Advancement of Science**

<http://www.sciencemag.org/>

**Scientific American** (a magazine that is also available online)

Publisher: Scientific American, Inc.

<http://www.scientificamerican.com/>

## Annotated Bibliographies 101

### **What is an annotated bibliography?**

An annotated bibliography is a summary and evaluation of research that has been completed prior to writing a formal essay. Annotations require you to summarize, analyze, and reflect on scholarly articles that are needed for a well-written essay.

### **What purpose does an annotated bibliography serve?**

In order to fully and accurately comprehend the topic you are studying, an annotated bibliography is necessary. Creating these annotations will help you organize and categorize your subtopics as well as understand their most important aspects. Also, the last few sentences of your annotations require you to reflect on how you intend to use the information in your paper, which is a form of pre-writing.

### **Example of an APA formatted annotation:**



Manovich, L. (2009). The practice of everyday (media) life: From mass consumption to mass cultural production? *Critical Inquiry*, 35(2), 319–331.

<https://www.jstor.org/stable/10.1086/596645>

Manovich's article assesses the shift from a consumption-based media culture (in which media content is produced by a small number of professionals and consumed by a mass audience) to a production-based media culture (in which this mass audience is just as active in producing content as in consuming it). He is skeptical of some of the claims made about this cultural shift; specifically, he argues that the shift towards user-made content must be regarded as more reliant upon commercial media production than it is typically acknowledged to be. However, he regards web 2.0 as an exciting ongoing development for art and media production, citing its innovation and unpredictability.

The article is outdated in certain ways (it dates from 2009, before the launch of Instagram, to give just one example). Nevertheless, its critical engagement with the possibilities opened up for media production by the growth of social media is valuable in a general sense, and its conceptualization of these changes frequently applies just as well to more current social media platforms as it does to Myspace. Conceptually, I intend to draw on this article in my own analysis of the social dynamics of Twitter and Instagram.



Double-spaced

Left-aligned

**\*\*Notice that the annotation appropriately summarizes the scholarly article and also explains how I intend to use the article in my essay.**



Research Using JSTOR (This is a very difficult task to locate current information 2020 and newer)

<https://guides.jstor.org/how-to-jstor>

Register: Archimedean Academy

<https://guides.jstor.org/how-to-jstor>

How to use JSTOR - Students must read and watch the short 7-minute video.

- ☐ I signed up for my JSTOR account using my Archimedean email address.
- ☐ I reviewed the tutorial.
- ☐ I created my own Workspace. Folder on JSTOR
- ☐ Choose TWO from the following categories. Label it as your first and second choices for your research paper's general category.
- ☐ Choice 1: \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Choice 2: \_\_\_\_\_

Science & Mathematics

[Agriculture](#)

[Aquatic Sciences](#)

[Astronomy](#)

[Biological Sciences](#)

[Botany & Plant Sciences](#)

[Chemistry](#)

[Computer Science](#)

[Developmental & Cell Biology](#)

[Ecology & Evolutionary Biology](#)

[Engineering](#)

[Environmental Science](#)

[General Science](#)

[Geology](#)

[Horticulture](#)

[Mathematics](#)

[Paleontology](#)

[Physics](#)

[Science & Technology Studies](#)

[Statistics](#)

[Technology](#)

[Zoology](#)

## **Annotated Bibliography Assignment**

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of this assignment is to help you organize and categorize the information you gathered during research.

- ✓ Think of the topic you selected for your annotated bibliography.
- ✓ Select 10 articles related to your topic
- ✓ Print your articles (PDF files) and highlight the most significant information you wish to include in your annotations.
- ✓ Create an APA formatted annotated bibliography in Good Notes or Google Docs. Be sure to properly format it by looking at the examples and YouTube video provided in your internet scavenger hunt.

### **Requirements:**

- ✓ You will have a minimum of 10 annotations.
- ✓ Your annotations should all relate to the topic you were assigned.
- ✓ Your annotations should be a minimum of  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a page.
- ✓ Your annotations should be formatted in APA style.
- ✓ Your annotations should be grammatically correct and well thought out.
- ✓ Your annotations should NOT be copied and pasted from the article. These should be in YOUR WORDS only.

## **Annotated Bibliography Peer Checklist**

### **Development:**

- ✓ Underline any fragments or run-on sentences.
- ✓ Put a star next to any paragraph that is not fully developed or is confusing.
- ✓ Read the annotations out loud. Do they sound competent and professional?

### **Punctuation and Organization:**

- ✓ Find and mark any comma splices.
- ✓ Look for lack of commas and missing periods at the end of sentences.
- ✓ Circle any ineffective transition statements.

### **Formatting:**

- ✓ Check to make sure the annotations are in alphabetical order.
- ✓ Check to make sure the margins are all 1"
- ✓ Is the font Times New Roman—size 12?
- ✓ Are the citations correctly formatted in MLA format?

### **Grammar:**

- ✓ Circle any misspelled words throughout the annotations.
- ✓ Underline any capitalization errors.

## Annotated Bibliography Rubric

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Final Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

CATEGORY	Exceeds Expectations	Meets Expectations	Meets Some Expectations	Does Not Meet Expectations
Organization	Information is very organized with well-constructed paragraphs and subheadings.	Information is organized with well-constructed paragraphs.	Information is organized, but paragraphs are not well-constructed.	The information appears to be disorganized.
Quality of Information	Information clearly relates to the main topic. It includes several supporting details and/or examples.	Information clearly relates to the main topic. It provides 1-2 supporting details and/or examples.	Information clearly relates to the main topic. No details and/or examples are given.	Information has little or nothing to do with the main topic.
Internet Use	Successfully uses suggested internet links to find information and navigates within these sites easily without assistance.	Usually able to use suggested internet links to find information and navigates within these sites easily without assistance.	Occasionally able to use suggested internet links to find information and navigates within these sites easily without assistance.	Needs assistance or supervision to use suggested internet links and/or to navigate within these sites.
First Draft	Detailed draft is neatly presented and includes all required information.	Draft includes all required information and is legible.	Draft includes most required information and is legible.	Draft is missing required information and is difficult to read.
Peer Editing	Provides exceptional feedback to peers and puts forth a great deal of effort to ensure his/her classmate has an effective annotated bibliography	Provides adequate feedback to peers and attempts to ensure his/her classmate has an effective annotated bibliography.	Provides some feedback to peers, but not not put for a great deal of effort to ensure the quality of his/her classmate\'s annotation is effective.	Does not provide peers with feedback or attempt to help classmates.
APA Formatting	The annotated bibliography is accurately formatted using APA style without any errors.	The annotated bibliography is accurately formatted in APA style with only 1-2 errors.	The annotated bibliography is accurately formatted in APA style with 3-4 errors.	The annotated bibliography is not accurately formatted in APA style.

Peer Editor / Teacher Comments:

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## Research Paper Outline Guidelines

Directions: Based on your topic sheet, research, and annotated bibliography, you will need to draft out an outline that will help you write your rough draft. The more detailed your outline is, the easier it will be to write your essay. **\*\*Be sure to use in-text citations that show where your quotes are from.**

### **Outline Example:**

1. Subcategory one: **Kinesthetic learners**
  - a. Quote to support subtopic #1: **A kinesthetic-tactile learning style requires that you manipulate or touch material to learn. Kinesthetic-tactile techniques are used in combination with visual and/or auditory study techniques, producing multi-sensory learning (Houghton).**
  - b. Quote to support subtopic #2: **Kinesthetic learners are most successful when totally engaged with the learning activity. They acquire information fastest when participating in a science lab, drama presentation, skit, field trip, dance, or other active activity (Farwell).**
  - c. Quote to support subtopic #3: **30% of students are kinesthetic learners and need more tactile (hands-on) and movement based activities (Prince).**
  - d. Quote to support subtopic #4: **Most kinesthetic learners love games because they often involve movement but are also enjoyable - kinesthetic learners pethaps more than other students who have different learning preferences need the element of enjoyment and fun to sustain their concentration, especially when they are younger, and it's worth developing a repertoire of successful games that you can play in many different contexts (Kinesthetic Learners).**

Notice that each quote includes an in-text citation AND all of the subtopic quotes correlate with my subtopics listed on my topic page at the beginning of this unit.

***You can either type or handwrite your outline.***

**Outline Template:** Topic of research essay: \_\_\_\_\_

1. Introductory Paragraph
  - a. Point one:
  - b. Point two:
  - c. Point three:
  - d. Thesis Statement
2. Subtopic one:
  - a. Quote to support sub-subtopic #1:
  - b. Quote to support sub-subtopic #2:
  - c. Quote to support sub-subtopic #3:
  - d. Quote to support sub-subtopic #4:
3. Subtopic two:
  - a. Quote to support sub-subtopic #1:
  - b. Quote to support sub-subtopic #2:
  - c. Quote to support sub-subtopic #3:
  - d. Quote to support sub-subtopic #4:
4. Subtopic three:
  - a. Quote to support sub-subtopic #1:
  - b. Quote to support sub-subtopic #2:
  - c. Quote to support sub-subtopic #3:
  - d. Quote to support sub-subtopic #4:
5. Subtopic four:
  - a. Quote to support sub-subtopic #1:
  - b. Quote to support sub-subtopic #2:
  - c. Quote to support sub-subtopic #3:
  - d. Quote to support sub-subtopic #4:
6. Subtopic five:
  - a. Quote to support sub-subtopic #1:
  - b. Quote to support sub-subtopic #2:
  - c. Quote to support sub-subtopic #3:
  - d. Quote to support sub-subtopic #4:
7. Conclusion:
  - a. Point one:
  - b. Point two:
  - c. Point three:
  - d. Restate thesis statement:

## **The Writing Process**

### **TABLE OF CONTENTS:**

- ✓ Page 1: The Importance of Understanding Plagiarism
- ✓ Page 2-3: APA Formatting
- ✓ Page 4-5: Avoiding Plagiarism by using Citations
- ✓ Page 6-7: Introductions and thesis statement
- ✓ Page 8-14: Body Paragraphs (topic sentences, embedding quotes, and transition statements)
- ✓ Page 15: Conclusions/Reflecting on what you learned

Now that you have completed all parts of the research pre-writing, it is time to begin writing your rough draft. Using the information you've already researched/outlined as well as the guidelines on the following pages, begin drafting your 5-page essay. If you still need to do additional research, you can—but remember that you will need to add a source sheet.

**Please do not hesitate to ask questions if you are confused. Writer's block is a real thing!**

# The Importance of **Understanding Plagiarism**

- What do you already know about plagiarism?

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- What is the dictionary definition of plagiarism?

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- What is your school's policy for students who plagiarize?

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- How can you avoid plagiarism?

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- What have you already done to avoid plagiarism in your essay?

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For this particular essay, you will not receive any credit for an essay that is copied word for word by someone else or that does not have in-text citations stating where the information is from. Any paper with AI Detection over 10% will automatically become an F.



## APA **FORMATTING** GUIDELINES

Use the template in Google Docs:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/14ACFpCqZojVw24ZRHMAoZF80VShAStKZWW7XtqhINI/edit?usp=sharing>

In order to receive full credit on your essay, you need to include all of these components. Not only will they create a properly formatted essay, but they will also create flow to your essay.

### **ESSAY CHECKPOINT:**

Before beginning your essay, write down any questions you may have about the above information. We will discuss them as a class.

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## **In-Text Citations & References Page**

As you learned, in order to avoid plagiarism, you will need to use in-text citations that correlate with your References page.

✓ DEFINE in-text citation:

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**\*\*An APA formatted in-text citation includes the AUTHOR'S LAST NAME (and page numbers if applicable) OR if there is not an author listed, the "Title of the Article".**

EXAMPLE of in-text citation:

Formally, a kinesthetic learner can be defined as, "a learning style that requires a student to manipulate or touch material to learn. Kinesthetic-tactile techniques are used in combination with visual and/or auditory study techniques, producing multi-sensory learning" (Houghton).

NOTICE: The period goes AFTER the in-text citation. This shows that the entire sentence is related to that particular source.

## **PRACTICE USING IN-TEXT CITATIONS**

- ✓ Step **ONE**: Refer to the 7 source sheets with your research.
- ✓ Step **TWO**: Draw open parentheses at the top of each page. (       )
- ✓ Step **THREE**: Locate the author's last name (if there is not an author, locate the "Title of the Article").
- ✓ Step **FOUR**: Write the author's last name OR the title of the article in the open parentheses for each page.
- These will be your **IN-TEXT CITATIONS**
- Any time you use information from a source sheet, you will use the correlating in-text citation to cite where you got the information from.
- ✓ Write an example of a direct quote and in-text citation below:

## **PARAPHRASED STATEMENTS VS DIRECT QUOTES**

- ✓ **A PARAPHRASED STATEMENT** is a sentence (or multiple sentences) that are put in your own words BASED ON scholarly information you obtained from a source. Although these statements are in your own words, they still require in-text citations that show where the information is from.
- ✓ **A DIRECT QUOTE** is information that is cited word-for-word from a source with "quotation marks" to indicate that the wording is from someone other than yourself.

## PRACTICE:

Directions: Choose one of your source sheets. Select 3 pieces of information that you intend on using in your essay. Then, practice writing that information as a direct quote AND a paraphrased statement.

Source Information #1	Source Information #2	Source Information #3
Direct Quote	Direct Quote	Direct Quote
Paraphrased Statement	Paraphrased Statement	Paraphrased Statement

# Writing an Introduction

**DIRECTIONS:** Now that you are familiar with the basics of plagiarism, using citations, and formatting your work, it is time to begin writing your introductory paragraph. For many, writing an introduction can be a challenge. Follow these simple steps to create an attention-grabbing introduction.

Your introduction should prepare readers for your essay by giving them the information they need to follow your discussion. For this reason, your introduction should include a thesis statement that presents the main idea of your essay, which usually appears at the end of the introductory paragraph.

## Here are some ways to begin your introduction:

- \_\_\_\_\_ Begin with a general statement to introduce your topic.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Begin with a contradiction: start with a statement recognizing an opinion or approach that is opposite from the one you plan to take in your essay.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Begin with a short anecdote or narrative: if your story is interesting, it will draw readers in immediately. \*\*\*This is NOT a story about your own life... This is something from a news article or a well-known event. REMEMBER: using the first person is not an option for this essay.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Begin with an interesting fact or statistic: make sure this is powerful, as you will include factual information in your essay.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Begin with a definition of a term that is important to your essay. You can either use a literal, dictionary definition or you can create your own definition based on the information you have researched.

## Use the following checklist as you complete your introduction:

\_\_\_\_\_ 1. **A Powerful Beginning:** Begin with something that will catch your reader's attention (without confusing him/her). Your audience should be hooked at this point—they should want to continue reading.

\_\_\_\_\_ 2. **Purpose:** Make it evident that your essay is to inform the audience of your topic. Why should they care about your topic?

\_\_\_\_\_ 3. **Scope:** Briefly discuss the components you plan to discuss in your paper.

\_\_\_\_\_ 4. **Background Information:** Pretend as though the audience is not familiar with any aspect of your topic. What information is absolutely essential for them to know prior to reading the rest of your essay?

\_\_\_\_\_ 5. State your **thesis statement** or main purpose for writing your essay.

## BRAINSTORM YOUR INTRODUCTION

Directions: Using the space below, draft out how you would like your introduction to look.

Students who prefer a more hands-on, interactive approach to learning are considered kinesthetic learners. Formally, a kinesthetic learner can be defined as, “a learning style that requires a student to manipulate or touch material to learn. Kinesthetic-tactile techniques are used in combination with visual and/or auditory study techniques, producing multi-sensory learning” (Houghton). Furthermore, it is apparent to educators that this style of learner cannot learn as well by simply listening to a lecture or watching a demonstration; instead, the student prefers to be actively engaged and to learn by doing the task themselves. Typically, activities such as group work, drama presentation, recreational games, and project-based assessments will peak a kinesthetic learner’s interest (Farwell). In a recent study conducted by Jarred Prince, it was discovered that on average, 30% of students are considered kinesthetic learners (Prince). Knowing this, teachers are able to develop a variety of interactive lesson plans that will allow kinesthetic learners to express their creativity by performing the task at hand. Ultimately, this style of learning is most successful when the student and the teacher both understand that in order to sustain their attention; the activities must reach the student on a more tactile level.

## Take a Closer Look at the **Example**:

Directions: Take a closer look at the body paragraph example above and answer the following questions prior to formatting your own.

- 1.) What did the author use as their topic sentence?
- 2.) How many direct quotes did the author use?
- 3.) How many paraphrased statements did the author use?
- 4.) How many sources did the author use?
- 5.) What point of view did the author use? Why is this important?
- 6.) What transition statement was used to introduce the direct quote?
- 7.) How does the author’s choice to use multiple sources make the essay more credible and scholarly? **\*\*This technique is called synthesizing.**
- 8.) What does it mean to synthesize information?
- 9.) Using the example, begin brainstorming your first body paragraph on the next page.

## BUILDING YOUR BODY PARAGRAPHS (#1)

Topic Sentence: 1 sentence	
Basic Information: 2-3 sentences	
Direct quote or paraphrased information: 2-3 sentences with transition statements & in-text citations	
Follow-up sentences: 2-3 sentences explaining the importance of the above quotes.	
Concluding sentence: 1-2 sentences	

## BUILDING YOUR BODY PARAGRAPHS (#2)

Topic Sentence: 1 sentence	
Basic Information: 2-3 sentences	
Direct quote or paraphrased information: 2-3 sentences with transition statements & in-text citations	
Follow up sentences: 2-3 sentences explaining the importance of the above quotes.	
Concluding sentence: 1-2 sentences	



## BUILDING YOUR BODY PARAGRAPHS (#3)

Topic Sentence: 1 sentence	
Basic Information: 2-3 sentences	
Direct quote or paraphrased information: 2-3 sentences with transition statements & in-text citations	
Follow-up sentences: 2-3 sentences explaining the importance of the above quotes.	
Concluding sentence: 1-2 sentences	

## BUILDING YOUR BODY PARAGRAPHS (#4)

Topic Sentence: 1 sentence	
Basic Information: 2-3 sentences	
Direct quote or paraphrased information: 2-3 sentences with transition statements & in-text citations	
Follow up sentences: 2-3 sentences explaining the importance of the above quotes.	
Concluding sentence: 1-2 sentences	

## BUILDING YOUR BODY PARAGRAPHS (#5)

Topic Sentence: 1 sentence	
Basic Information: 2-3 sentences	
Direct quote or paraphrased information: 2-3 sentences with transition statements & in-text citations	
Follow-up sentences: 2-3 sentences explaining the importance of the above quotes.	
Concluding sentence: 1-2 sentences	

# TRANSITION STATEMENTS

Using transition statements that sound professional and intelligent will  
add credibility to your work.

**Here's a list of transition statements:**

- ✓ First, second, third...
- ✓ Not only \_\_\_\_\_, but also \_\_\_\_\_
- ✓ Research shows...
- ✓ Studies prove...
- ✓ It is evident that...
- ✓ In addition...
- ✓ Furthermore...
- ✓ Moreover...
- ✓ Comparatively...
- ✓ Equally important...
- ✓ To conclude...
- ✓ As previously stated...
- ✓ To summarize...
- ✓ Overall...
- ✓ Given these points...
- ✓ For example...
- ✓ For instance...
- ✓ Ultimately...
- ✓ \_\_\_\_\_ (author's name) states...
- ✓ Therefore...
- ✓ However...
- ✓ Unfortunately...
- ✓ Fortunately...

✓ Other \_\_\_\_\_

## Writing Your Conclusion

**DIRECTIONS:** Use the following guidelines to write the concluding paragraph of your essay. The purpose of your conclusion is to reflect on what you've researched, summarize the main points, and focus on three/four specific points you want your audience to take with them.

### **Your conclusion should:**

- ✓ Be 6-8 sentences
- ✓ Include a brief summary of your essay's main points
- ✓ NOT include any NEW information (should all be a reflection on what has already been stated)
- ✓ Focus on three of the MAIN points of your essay. Ask yourself what you want your readers to take with them. What are the overarching themes of your essay?
- ✓ Restate the main idea of your essay, or your thesis statement

## Brainstorm Your Conclusion

Topic Sentence	
Summary of main points	
3 overarching themes	
Restate /reword your thesis	

# Creating Your References Page

Using the source sheets that you created in section 3 of this packet, create your References page (as demonstrated below). Use SCRIBBR APA 7th Edition

- ✓ Your References page should be in alphabetical order
- ✓ Each of your in-text citations should correlate with a source on your References page.
- ✓ Your References page should be properly cited in APA format.

## References

Archyde. (2022, March 26). *Plastic in human blood; Microplastic particles in the blood of 77% of people*. Archyde.

<https://www.archyde.com/plastic-in-human-blood-microplastic-particles-in-the-blood-of-77-of-people/>

Brahney, J. (2020, June 25). Opinion | You're Probably Inhaling Microplastics Right Now. *The New York Times*.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2020/06/25/opinion/plastic-air-pollution.html?searchResultPosition=1>

Carpenter, K. G. (2023, February 6). *Microplastic pollution aids viruses and prolongs their infectivity*. Science News Explores.

<https://www.snexplores.org/article/microplastic-pollution-aids-infectious-viruses>

Davis, A. L. (2022, September 14). How to make recyclable plastics out of CO2 to slow climate change. *Science News*.

<https://www.sciencenews.org/article/plastic-carbon-dioxide-capture-recycling-climate-change>

Down To Earth. (2022, March 25). *Microplastics detected in human blood for the very first time* [Video]. YouTube. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nxEQkVPBJjQ>

Wilke, C. (2020, November 20). Plastics are showing up in the world's most remote places, including Mount Everest. *Science News*.

<https://www.sciencenews.org/article/plastics-remote-places-microplastics-earth-mount-everest>

Attach your References page to the back side of your essay prior to turning it in. Remember, any source that is cited within your essay **MUST** be included in your References.

# Peer Review & Reflection

Directions: Use the following checklist to peer edit your classmate's essay.

## **Development & Support:**

- ✓ Underline any sentence fragments and/or run-on sentences.
- ✓ Mark any paragraph in which the main idea is not clearly developed.
- ✓ Check to make sure there is a clear connection between all support/evidence.
- ✓ Read the paper out loud. Do the introduction, body paragraphs, and conclusion flow together?

## **Punctuation Errors/Organization:**

- ✓ Find and mark any comma splices.
- ✓ Look for lack of commas/missing periods at the end of sentences.
- ✓ After reading the essay out loud, add any necessary punctuation marks that you feel will help improve the quality of the essay.
- ✓ Put a star near any ineffective transitions.
- ✓ Put a star next to any paragraph that does not focus on a single idea.

## **Citing Work:**

- ✓ Do they have enough sources? Are they in APA format?
  - o Alphabetical order
  - o 2<sup>nd</sup> line of each source should be indent ½ inch.
  - o Font should be Times New Roman, Size 12
  - o Title should be—Works Cited—centered at the top of the page.
- ✓ Make sure each in-text citation matches with a source on the References page.
- ✓ Mark any direct quote or paraphrased statement that does not have an in-text citation with it.

## **Spelling Errors:**

- ✓ Make sure all words are spelled correctly.
  - o Use a dictionary if you are unsure of a word.
- ✓ Make sure all proper nouns are capitalized.
- ✓ Make sure that words that should not be capitalized are lowercase.
- ✓ Mark any word that you feel does not make sense in the sentence or paragraph.

## **First Person VS Third Person:**

- ✓ Mark any instance of 1<sup>st</sup> person
  - o I, me, my,
- ✓ Replace “I, me, my, you, your” with:
  - o One, he, him, she, her it, they, their, people, person, etc.
  - o OR erase it completely
- ✓ Eliminate any cliché phrases. EX: “This paragraph will be about...”



# REFLECTION

Fill out the graphic organizer as you reflect on your rough draft and final draft.

## **ROUGH DRAFT REFLECTION**

What changes do you need to make prior to completing your final?	
What feedback did you receive from your peers? What will you do to make the corrections?	
What is the most challenging part? What part do you think is the easiest?	

## **FINAL DRAFT REFLECTION**

After receiving feedback on your essay, what part do you feel you did the best on?	
After receiving feedback on your essay, what part do you feel you could still improve on?	
What are THREE (3) things you learned from your research?	

# FINAL RUBRIC

CATEGORY	10-8	7-5	4-3	2-0
Organization	Information is very organized with well-constructed paragraphs and subheadings.	Information is organized with well-constructed paragraphs.	Information is organized, but paragraphs are not well-constructed.	The information appears to be disorganized. 8)
Quality of Information	Information clearly relates to the main topic. It includes several supporting details and/or examples.	Information clearly relates to the main topic. It provides 1-2 supporting details and/or examples.	Information clearly relates to the main topic. No details and/or examples are given.	Information has little or nothing to do with the main topic.
Sources	All sources (information and graphics) are accurately documented in the desired format.	All sources (information and graphics) are accurately documented, but a few are not in the desired format.	All sources (information and graphics) are accurately documented, but many are not in the desired format.	Some sources are not accurately documented.
Mechanics	No grammatical, spelling or punctuation errors.	Almost no grammatical, spelling or punctuation errors	A few grammatical, spelling, or punctuation errors.	Many grammatical, spelling, or punctuation errors.
Paragraph Construction	All paragraphs include introductory sentence, explanations or details, and concluding sentence.	Most paragraphs include introductory sentence, explanations or details, and concluding sentence.	Paragraphs included related information but were typically not constructed well.	Paragraphing structure was not clear and sentences were not typically related within the paragraphs.

Total Points:

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Teacher Comments:

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