

AP Research Summer Work

Assignment 1: Interest Inventory

The goal of this assignment is to brainstorm ideas for your AP Research project. Because you will spend two semesters working on it, it should be about a topic that you are interested in. Complete the interest inventory before continuing with the next assignments.

Part I: For this section, do a little research on NPR, JStor Daily, Inspire, another reliable database, or consider topics you learned about in your other classes. Your answers can be bullet-pointed phrases.

Question	Answer
Look up topics related to art or culture (music, literature, film, theater, etc.). What interests you?	
Look up topics related to the economy – U.S. or another country. What interests you?	
Look up topics related to the business world. What interests you?	
What are some current political issues in the U.S.?	
What are some current political issues globally?	
What are some historical topics that interest you?	
What historical topics relate to a current issue today?	
What are some health/medical related topics that interest you?	

Which kind of science most interests you? What are some topics in that field?	
What are some current ideas/issues happening in the world of technology?	
What place interests you?	
What is your favorite book? Movie? Why?	
What career are you considering pursuing?	
In what ways do people surprise you?	
What are some current issues in education?	
Spend one day observing as you go about your day (brush your teeth, drive around, walk, shop, interact, travel, etc.) What are some interesting things you notice? What do you wonder? What surprises you?	

Part II: *For this section, just answer the question. These can come from you or from your topic exploration in Part I, but they don't have to.*

Question	Answer
What fascinates you?	

What is something you are curious about?	
What is a problem you would like to see solved?	
What is a topic you are passionate about?	
What prediction can you make about the future?	
What is something you would like to create?	
What is something you don't understand but would you like explained?	

Assignment 2: Annotated bibliographies

Use the interest inventory to brainstorm 2 possible topics to investigate for your research project.

Topic 1: _____

Topic 2: _____

Do three annotated bibliographies in MLA format over each of the two research topics. (Attach to these sheets)

Assignment 3: Research questions

Use the interest inventory and the annotated bibliographies to write 3 research questions for each topic.

Topic 1: _____

Question 1	
Question 2	
Question 3	

Topic 2: _____

Question 1	
Question 2	
Question 3	

Assignment 4: Research methods brainstorm

For each research question, write what you would need to know to answer the question and whether that involves quantitative or qualitative data or both. We will go over this more in-depth during the 1st semester. All you need to know is that qualitative data deals with the written word (interviews, open-ended questions, etc.) and quantitative data deals with numbers.

Topic 1: _____

	What You Need to Know	Quantitative/Qualitative/Both
Question 1		
Question 2		

Question 3		
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Topic 2: _____

	What You Need to Know	Quantitative/Qualitative/Both
Question 1		
Question 2		
Question 3		

Research Question Workshop

Section A: Write a research question in 1. Evaluate and revise using questions 2-4.

1. Write your research question:

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2. Go through the following criteria of an effective research question. Take notes over each.

Is this something you are interested in?	
Context? Is it a real-world issue/problem? What is it?	

What type of information is needed to address the question? Is it researchable?	
Is it too broad or too narrow?	

3. Revise your question based on your above notes:

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4. Go through the criteria of an effective research question again. Revise again as necessary or try a new topic/question.