

Research Paper Topic Sheet - Brainstorming Before Research

The topic of my research paper is: _____

The paper will have body paragraphs which focus on these topics:

- **1st body paragraph: Background/Basic information about the topic**
 - This paragraph(s) establishes the basic idea of the topic and might include examples from history and/or current events which pertain to the topic.

- **2nd and 3rd body paragraphs: Points #1 and #2 of your thesis statement**
 - These paragraphs focus on the **claims** you will make about your topic. Learning as much as you can about your topic during research will help you develop the claims you will make in your thesis statement and explain in these paragraphs.

- **4th body paragraph(s): Connection to *Fahrenheit 451***
 - This paragraph will focus on the topic's presence & connections in the novel - you won't need additional research for this paragraph as your evidence will come from our book.

So now that you know the general shape and organization of the paper, it's time to start generating some questions for your research. Basically, we need to think about what we need to learn before just diving into hundreds or thousands of articles, books, and websites about it.

Research-Guiding Questions

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.
- 8.
- 9.
- 10.

When we have unlimited books, articles, newspapers, and other source types at our fingertips, finding sources answers to these questions can seem overwhelming! So let's work on identifying some **search terms** that we can use to find our sources.