Choosing a Topic!

Choose a Topic You're Interested in! Don't use Wikipedia as a Reference Source, but use it for Background Reading, Brainstorming & Topic Ideas!

Wikipedia: A great place to begin searching for a topic!
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Portal:Contents/Portals

http://coolinterestingstuff.com/
http://www.aquiziam.com/top_100_mysteries.html
http://robjohnfrank.com/research-paper-topics/

Use the Opposing Viewpoints database for topic ideas!:
http://www.brunswick.k12.me.us/bhslibrary/databases-and-online-resources-2/

Books: the heart of the Library!

The BHS Library Catalog...We have approximately 25,000 books!
http://www.brunswick.k12.me.us/bhslibrary/

MaineCat...Access to 4.6 million books in over 100 in libraries across the state, including the Portland Public Library, Bowdoin College Library, and the University of Maine Library System. We have a van delivery service coming to BHS every Friday, so let us know if there is an inter-library loan book you would like us to get for you!
http://mainecat.maine.edu/search/

Google Books! If you still can’t find what you’re looking for, or want more information, try Google Books! Google has scanned more than 30 million books as of January, 2014!
http://books.google.com Hint: Use keywords and phrases in quotes!
Websites!

http://www.google.com

Fun Fact: There are 100 Billion Google Searches performed each month and Google has indexed over 30 trillion webpages!

Search Google like a Pro!

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Google_Search
(look half-way down the page under “search options”)

http://www.howtogeek.com/106718/how-to-search-google-like-a-pro-11-tricks-you-have-to-know/

Tips for Evaluating Websites!

http://www.lib.berkeley.edu/TeachingLib/Guides/Internet/Evaluate.html

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Popular</th>
<th>Scholarly</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Who writes the articles?</td>
<td>Professional journalists</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Who is the primary audience?</td>
<td>The general public</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Do the authors cite their sources?</td>
<td>Maybe in passing, but you usually won’t find formal references</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Are there ads?</td>
<td>Always</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Are current events covered?</td>
<td>Yes</td>
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http://www.howtogeek.com/106718/how-to-search-google-like-a-pro-11-tricks-you-have-to-know/

Use these Search Options to Search Google like a Pro!

intext: – To search within the FULL TEXT of a webpage, example: intext:”Lennon was the greatest” (no space after ”intext:”). This is a great way to search for your thesis idea!

allintitle: – Only the PAGE TITLES are searched (not the full text on each webpage), example: allintitle:”assassination of John Lennon”

Google Tip: pair your topic with phrases or words like “most interesting” “top 10”, “top 10 reasons”, greatest, fascinating, shocking, etc.

Tip: Use Google’s Search Tools to search for web sites published “Any Time” within the last year or last month.


http://www.news.google.com

The Deep Web or Invisible Web!

Fact: 85% of web searchers use only search engines to find information.

The Deep Web is content that you can’t access through a search engine like Google because it is not indexed on the web.
Databases!

**Marvel!** A collection of dozens of databases giving full-text access to magazines and newspaper articles. It would cost $700,000 to purchase all of these databases!

http://libraries.maine.edu/main databases/

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**Cite your Sources!**

**EasyBib!**

Avoid plagiarism and cite your sources! EasyBib shows you how to cite 59 different types of resources, and you can put in a book’s ISBN # to quickly create a citation!

http://www.easybib.com/

**Tip:** You can sign in at Easybib and SAVE your Citations by using your Google Drive login!

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**Sources & Photo Credits:**


http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-0fl4reMGQo8/TXg7g3f5z8I/AAAAAAAAC4E/b0-n0BnXjwc/s1600/heart%2Bbook.jpg
