FOOD: WHAT A VAST TOPIC!

- What is food?
  organic, industrialized, GMOs
- What is the purpose of food?
  social, cultural, religious, ceremonial
- What does it mean to eat ethically?
  rights of animals, farm workers, and farm owners
- What determines what we eat?
  government regulations, social influences, media
THE RESEARCH PROCESS

https://www.flickr.com/photos/mcmscience/17664002728
FIRST STEP: BRAINSTORM IDEAS & OUTLINE
YOUR EXISTING KNOWLEDGE OF THE TOPIC

- Doesn’t have to be a formal outline.
“You have a working knowledge of a topic when you can talk about it for one minute without repeating yourself.” *(Research Strategies, Badke, 2008, p.21)*

- Read material that will give you a broader picture of the topic.

Reference Books

- Examples: encyclopedia, dictionary, almanac, atlas, directory, handbook, thesaurus.
- Gives overview or background info on a topic.
- Can help you figure out or narrow down your topic.
- Quick access to facts.
- Can’t be checked out.
- Found in bookcases with green labels.
**REFERENCE BOOKS**

General vs. Specialized Encyclopedia

- **General Encyclopedia** = *World Book Encyclopedia*
- **Specialized Encyclopedia** = goes in depth on a specific topic or subject
- May NOT use a general encyclopedia.
- Some books on the cart...
## EXAMPLES OF HOW TO NARROW A TOPIC

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Narrow Topic By</th>
<th>General</th>
<th>Specific</th>
<th>More Specific</th>
<th>Very Specific</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Time</td>
<td>Sports</td>
<td>Basketball</td>
<td>NBA</td>
<td>Changes in the NBA since the 1960s</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Location</td>
<td>Mammals</td>
<td>African mammals</td>
<td>Big cat mammals in Africa</td>
<td>The Cheetah’s future in Kenya</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Genre</td>
<td>Music</td>
<td>Rock &amp; Roll</td>
<td>Early rock &amp; roll artists</td>
<td>Elvis Presley’s influence on rock &amp; roll</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Area of study</td>
<td>Medicine</td>
<td>Development of antibiotics</td>
<td>Use of antibiotics in preventing Polio</td>
<td>Dr. Salk’s contribution to Polio prevention</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note that each broad topic is narrowed until a manageable research topic is clarified. The last column can be turned into your paper’s **ESSENTIAL QUESTION**.
LET’S RECAP...

- Pre-research and narrowing down your topic.

[Pre-research video]
IT'S TIME FOR MORE RESEARCH!

https://www.flickr.com/photos/mcmscience/17664002728
POSSIBLE SUBJECT HEADINGS

- The library on-line catalog uses specific labels for subject headings/topics. It is expecting you to use those search terms.

- Refer to the LibGuide to get ideas of subject headings to use as search terms for this project.
BC Library Catalog

Use to find non-fiction, reference, and e-books

Use Basic “Subject begins with” search

May fall under non-scholarly source for this project—get approval first

Let’s see it in action... To the library!
E-BOOKS

- Some search results for BC Library Catalog=e-books (single user)
- Use BC eBook Collection for over 170,000 e-books (multi-user) not accessible by Library Catalog
WHAT ARE DATABASES?

What Are Databases? video
WHAT ARE DATABASES?

- Databases are searchable collections of reliable, vetted resources, like encyclopedias, magazines, academic journals, and newspapers.
- Not part of the visible Internet—Google doesn’t have access to these articles.
- We pay for access to the servers that host the database search-engines.
MAGAZINES VS. ACADEMIC JOURNALS

- Magazines
  - General Audience
  - Colorful pictures/ads
  - 6th grade reading level

- Academic Journals
  - Selected audience
  - Higher vocabulary used, specific to that industry
  - Lots of text and graphs
  - Peer-reviewed articles

http://www.epcc.edu/Library/MDP/Pages/ResearchHelp.aspx

http://www.design-newtoncollege.com/year-7/unit-1--magazine-cover

https://www.trentu.ca/library/help/scholarly/journal
HOW TO TALK TO DATABASES

- Find key words or phrases in your essential question.
  - A **key word or phrase** is the word or words that the question is about. They are the important words in the question.

- Example: How does someone’s poverty level affect their access to higher education?
  - What are the important words?

How does someone’s poverty level affect their access to higher education?
Next you will develop a list of synonyms for these key words/phrases.

What are words we could use for higher education?

college, university, post-secondary education
LET'S SEE IT IN ACTION...

Developing Keywords video
RECOMMENDED DATABASES

Academic Search Complete
MasterFILE Complete
Health Source: Consumer Edition
Military & Government Collection
GreenFILE
Applied Science & Technology
GETTING TO THE DATABASES

Welcome to the Grace Van Dyke Bird Library

Find a Book
- Bakersfield College Library Catalog
  Locate print books and ebooks in the BC Library collection
- Bakersfield College eBook Collection
  Collection of over 170,000 ebooks from EBSCO

Find Books & Articles
- EBSCO Discovery Service
  Search BC’s book catalog, ebooks, and research databases simultaneously

Find an Article
- EBSCOhost
  Journal and magazine articles from various disciplines
- Gale Academic OneFile
  Journal and magazine articles from various disciplines
- Gale Biography in Context
  Reference, journal, and magazine articles regarding significant people, past and present
- Gale Literature Resource Center
  Overviews, literary criticism, and reviews on writers from all disciplines
- Gale Opposing Viewpoints
  Viewpoints, reference articles, and statistics covering today’s hottest social issues
- CQ Researcher
  In-depth coverage of the most important issues of the day
- EBSCO Applied Science & Technology Source
  Journal and magazine articles in the applied sciences and computing disciplines
- Oxford Music Online
  Includes Grove Music Online and other Oxford music reference resources
- EBSCO Newspaper Source Plus
  Full-text coverage of many of today’s major newspapers, newsmagazines and newspapers
- EBSCO Full Text Finder
  Articles from journals and magazines can be available as full text in BC’s databases
FROM HOME

Electronic Library Resources Login

Enter your student/staff ID number:

Login

**** DO NOT include the @ as part of your ID number ****

If you are unable to log in, please contact the Library during regular Library hours at 661-365-4461, option #2.

Licensing agreements for online databases and ebooks require that we limit access to currently enrolled students, faculty and staff at Bakersfield College.

Use your BC @ number, **without** the @ symbol.

To the databases!
Tip: Search your topic with site:.gov (or .edu, .org, etc.)

Some recommended websites on the LibGuide.

Be sure to fill out the website evaluation form!

Remember—you have to give the author’s credentials for all your sources for this project.
WHO PUT THE INFORMATION OUT THERE, AND WHY SHOULD YOU BELIEVE THEM?

The CRAAP Test

Currency: When the information was published and the importance of the date as it relates to the topic.
- Is the content important for your topic? Ex: scientific technologies are heavily related to health.
- Where was the webpage originally published? Is it updated or reviewed?
- Are all of the links on the page functional?

Reliability: The degree to which the information satisfies your information needs.
- How relevant is the information to the topic?
- Is the date of the information needed? Is it highlighted, dated, history, stable, primary source?
- Is it appropriate for college level research?

Authority: Who is providing this information and are they a reliable source?
- Why is the information on the topic (the author, creator, source)?
- Are there any extensive credentials given?
- Do they have an “About Us” or other home page? Is there an “About Us”, “Google” the name. Are they a well-known, reputable organization for this subject?

Accuracy: The truthfulness and correctness of the information.
- Where did the information come from? Did the implications of the information change (look for references or a Works Cited)
- Are the links to the original source of the information?
- Can you verify any of the information in other independent sources or from your own knowledge? You may need to “Google” the used sources or facts listed.

Purpose: The reason the Web page exists, and the point of view of the webpage creator.
- Is the page omitting something that might cause bias? (such as emotions, prejudice)
- Is the information based on facts or is it opinion? Is the author using solid evidence for their opinion?
- What is the purpose of the Web site sponsoring this page? Is it the domain?
- Is the domain .edu, .gov, .org, .com, .net, .info?
Give credit where credit is due!
Those weren’t your ideas!
MAKING COPIES AND PRINTING

- You must turn in photocopies of your sources—only the title page and page(s) you quote or paraphrase.
- For books—use copy machine by windows
  - $0.10 per page
  - Only takes coins/bills
MAKING COPIES AND PRINTING

- For database articles and websites—need to print selected pages
  - Must have money on printing account
  - Cash—pay at Business Services window
  - Credit card or debit card—can add money online—Print Manager icon
HOW WILL I REMEMBER ALL THIS?!

- Use the Library’s navigation bar to access our LibGuides.
- Find in the English folder “ENGL B1A: Food”
NOW IT’S YOUR TURN TO RESEARCH