

Your name: \_\_\_\_\_

Your class: \_\_\_\_\_

# Getting Started...

Pick a possible topic

Example:

“sense of smell”

Your choice:

\_\_\_\_\_

Find key terms related to this topic (including all synonyms)

For this step, you may need to consult a general encyclopedia or specialized dictionary, perhaps even an overview article to find terms.

Test your key terms using a good database, such as GaleNet.

Example:

Olfactory Organs

Human pheromones

Impaired smell & schizophrenia  
(& Parkinson’s & Alzheimer’s)

Jacobson’s Organ

Your choices:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

List potential research questions

Based on your initial searches and scanning of information, what questions can you formulate which have potential for a research paper? List as many as you can think of.

E.g.: What causes impairment or loss of smell and what can be done about it?

Your potential research questions:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Use the library form “Working Bibliography & Beginning Notes” or your own note-taking sheets to gather information about some of these questions. Once you think you have an idea for your thesis, move on to the sheet called GETTING FOCUSED.

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