Choose and develop your topic

1. Write down your **topic** and underline the key concepts.

2. Write the **key concepts** down at the top of each column and brainstorm other terms.

   **Tips:** Remember to list broader, narrower and related terms, as well as synonyms.

   **AND**
   __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________

   **OR**
   __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________

Research Log

*Before you start searching for resources on your topic - think. What type of material (information) do you need to complete your research project?*

- **primary or secondary sources?**
- **books or journal articles?**
- **scholarly/ academic / peer reviewed or popular sources?**
- **current or older information?**
- **general background information on a topic or in-depth information?**

1. Find a print book, e-book or encyclopedia for your topic by searching the **library catalogue**.

   a) Write down your search terms: (example: asthma AND teenagers OR adolescents)
   
   **Tips:** Remember to check Subject Terms in the full catalogue record for proper subject headings to use
   
   Look at your key concepts for this topic and try different searches.

   __________________________________________________________

   b) Citations: Cite this source. Which **citation style** are you using? ______

   __________________________________________________________
2. Find an **academic journal article** for your topic. Which **database** did you search?

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a) Write down your search terms: (example: asthma AND teenagers OR adolescents)

*Tips: Remember to check Subject Terms in the full record for proper subject headings to use. Look at your key concepts for this topic and try different searches.*

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b) Citations: Cite this source. Which citation style are you using? ______

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c) Briefly explain why this article is appropriate and helpful for your topic.

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3. Find a web site for your topic. Evaluate the site for accuracy, authority, currency, relevance, purpose.

**Name of web site and URL:**

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a) Briefly explain why this book is appropriate and helpful for your topic.

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Need help? Ask a Librarian by phone at 604.599.2538, or chat live at http://www.kwantlen.ca/library/services/askalibrarian.html