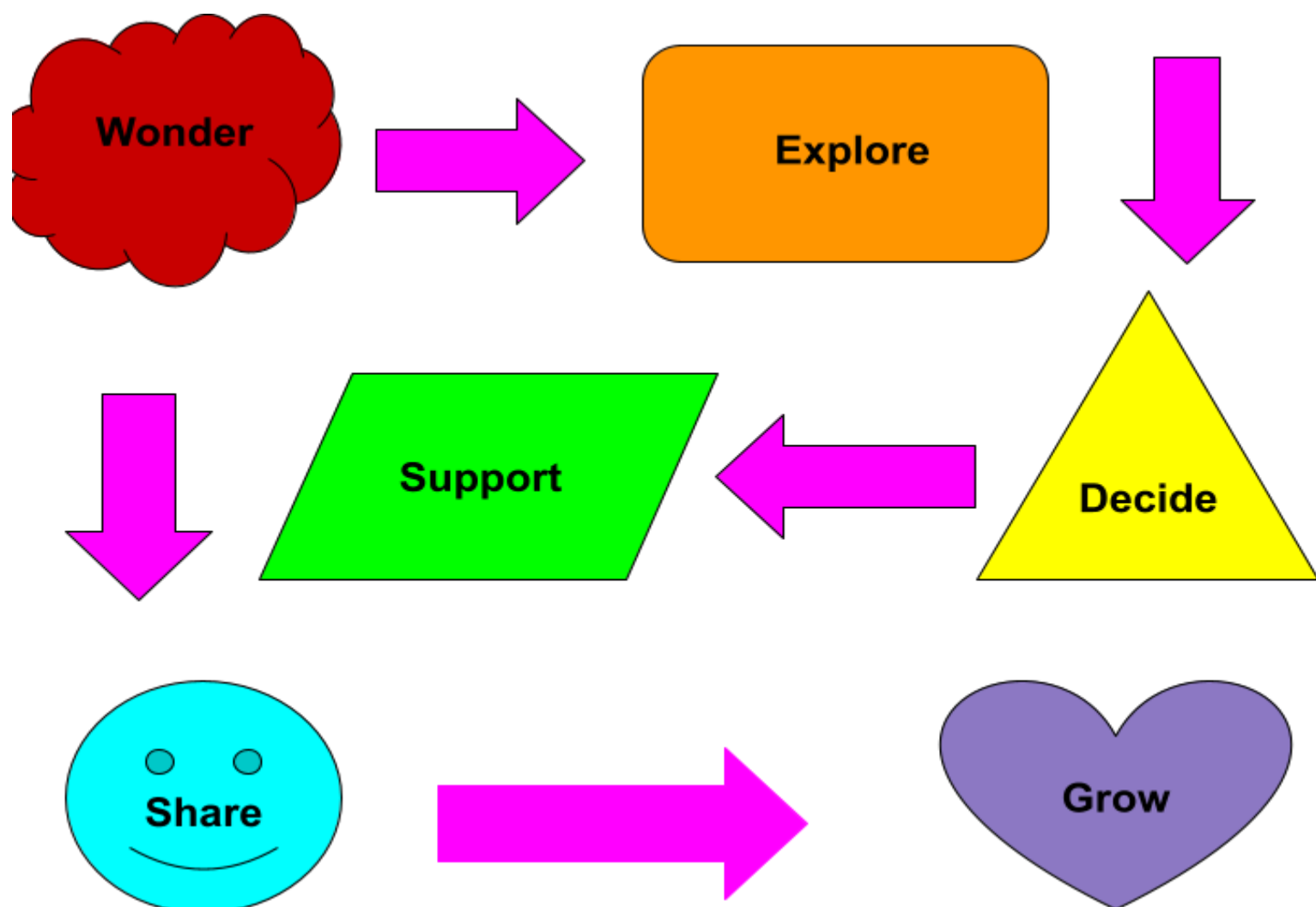




Your Research Paper is due no later than Friday, December 20 (before the winter break).

Every student in Finding Answers is required to complete the **Research Project (a Research Paper and a Research Presentation)** before the course concludes. You will have time to build your Research Presentation during the week of January 6.

You will need daily access to Google Docs, Google Sheets and the internet. I assume this means you will have your charged Chromebook with you every day. If you opt not to bring it to class, I assume you have made other arrangements to participate in class and keep up with our learning and assignments.

This project is specifically designed to be completed in stages. The idea is to learn the components and receive peer and/or teacher feedback at each stage so that when you turn in the Final Research Paper, it should be solid.

However, that only works if you keep up with the work as I have designed and scheduled it. So I will NOT accept the paper Steps more than one week late. There are 9 Steps.

Your paper will be approximately 5 double-spaced pages in length, EXCLUDING the title page and bibliography. You must use at least 6 sources in your paper (the exact types of sources will be explained in a later step)

You will develop your Research Paper and Research Presentation over the 10 weeks of the second quarter of this course.

- The individual assignments that go with that process and the Final Research Paper will make up your Q4 grade (The Research Paper counts 3x).
- The Research Presentation will count as a separate Q2 grade.
- And your Final Exam for the course (20% of your course grade) will be based on the 2 Peer Evaluations you complete during the last week of the course.

You will lose 10 points off per day the paper is late, and I will not accept it after 1 week has passed.

What should you choose to research? Consider the experiences you have had in the course's first 10 weeks. Is there anything we researched, discussed or wondered about that you are interested in enough to really look at it closely for the next 6-8 weeks? Or something else that you've been thinking about, maybe? You will be working on this for a while, so pick something you are interested in.

Understand that there are many different types of research papers.

I am inviting you to develop a RESEARCH QUESTION that you will answer with your research. Previous Finding Answers students have researched a wide variety of questions, including:

- What are the ways in which high school football helmets differ from NCAA or NFL regulation helmets and do the high school helmets provide appropriate protection from head injuries?
- Why is it important to establish credit as a high school student and how can that best be achieved?
- What sports lead to the highest incidence of eating disorders in athletes and why?
- How does alcoholism impact families in America?
- Why do male and female serial killers kill differently?
- What should the role of AI be in the future of high school education?
- What colleges have the most successful cybersecurity programs and why?
- How does military training prepare its members for civilian careers when they get out of the service?

Let's look at this [Scribbr video](#) that will give you a concise understanding of how research gets off the ground.

This is a good time for us to pause and discuss how you will organize your notes for this project. I would like you to design a Google Folder with either my name or the course name in its title. Then I would like you to decide if you want to create one long file for "Notes" or if you will create individual files within this folder for "Notes - Developing a Research Question" and "Notes - Understanding Research Sources," etc.

(cont'd)

If you are unable to come up with an idea on your own, I encourage you to use the ProQuest database, accessible through the WWHS library Google Site (which we will learn to use in class) to help you think about some interesting and/or relevant issues.

www.shufsd.org → (right side menu) Schools → Walt Whitman → (top, right) Staff → Library Staff → Ms. Rosemary Pray Google Site → (top menu) Library Research Databases) → (left side menu) uncheck all → check Pro/Con → Select ProQuest Sirs Issue Researcher → (username) walt → (password) whitman

I also want to help you understand the scope and expectation of a research project/paper like this one you have been assigned. [Laura Hammock's 2019 Marble Jar video](#) will explain how you should expect to parse out your time.

SUBMITTING:

- You will complete and submit a Note-Taking Handout assignment (comprehension questions).
- You will complete and submit a Preliminary Research Question for my feedback.

Step 2: Conduct some preliminary research on this topic

Also Week of 10/21

You need to determine if you want to stick with this topic for the long haul. So start asking questions such as:

Who are the primary players in this issue?

What are 2-3 of the varying stances on this topic?

What are the historical and contemporary culture connections?

Does this issue involve change and if so why is the change occurring?

This is also a great opportunity to use AI tools, ChatGPT, GoogleBard or Magic School are all tools that can help you learn to refine your question – type your idea into an AI tool and see if the information it returns is too vague; then work on refining the question until you get detailed answers. Those answers can even serve as the basis for your research outline.

At this point, it is important to recall our earlier lessons on how to:

(You may want to revisit [Source Types](#), [Source Evaluation](#))

- find sources (revisit **search engines, databases, print resources**, etc.)
- consider source type (revisit **primary vs. secondary, UGC vs. PGC**), **purpose and audience**
- evaluate source **bias, validity** and **reliability**
- determine a topic's **relevancy** to today's culture and/or climate

We will also be going to the Library to learn about the Databases available to you.

SUBMITTING:

- If needed, you will resubmit your Preliminary Research Questions to me for feedback and grading.

Step 3: Organize Your Research and Research POINTS

Week of 10/28

Now that you have a Preliminary Research Question, you need to figure out what the POINTS of your paper will be.

Think of your POINTS as the answers to the Research Question. You should plan to research and write about at least 3 POINTS in your paper.

To begin your research process, you will need to decide whether you are going to keep your Preliminary Research Question. A strong Research Question should:

- Educate others about an ongoing situation or...
- Offer solutions to an ongoing problem or...
- Inspire individuals or groups to take action or...
- Do some combination of the above.

When you have settled on your Research Question, you need to find a visual way to represent and organize your research (quotes, ideas and data) as well as the ROADMAP for your paper's POINTS.

You will figure out the POINTS after doing some research.

I will be presenting a few strong organizational strategies from which you may choose. They can be found in this resource: [Finding Answers - Graphic Organizers](#).

You will be required to build one of these Organizers and submit it for grading and feedback. If you have a different methodology that you already use successfully, you may present it to me (or email it to me) and ask my permission to use that instead.

SUBMITTING:

- You will submit for feedback a Graphic Organizer that organizes the POINTS you will make in your paper.

Step 4: Conduct Advanced Research and Refine Your Research Question

Weeks of 11/4-11/11

Now you are going to really dig in and find excellent, relevant, valid and reliable sources that will help you find answers to your research question.

Your final paper requires a minimum of 6 relevant, reliable sources, including at least:

- 1 peer-reviewed source
- 1 academic journal

and no more than

- 2 .com sources

All of your sources should be organized in your organizational tool (Google Sheet, etc.). As soon as you find a source, get it into the organizer before you move on to search for another source. You should begin to create a Bubble Cluster, Timeline Sequence or Standard Outline, either in Google Docs, Google Sheets or using a paper format (like a notebook, pad or index cards).

SUBMITTING:

- You will be submitting your outline/map and Google Sheet Source Organizer to me for review and grading.
- You will also conduct a Peer Review of another student's outline/map.

Step 5: Explore Sample Papers

Also Week of 11/11

You will look at **SAMPLE PAPERS**, particularly for the following components:

- source framing
- quote integration ([The University of Michigan Sweetland Writing Center](#))
- summarizing and paraphrasing
- paragraphing
- APA citation format
- APA Bibliography

SUBMITTING:

- You will complete and submit a Sample Paper Analysis Assignment for grading.

(Thanksgiving Break = 11/28-12/1)

Step 5: Write an Introduction

Week of 11/18

You will Create a Google Doc in which you will write your [Introduction](#).

The introduction should have some of the following elements, depending on the type of paper:

- Start with an attention grabber: a short story, example, statistic, or historical context that introduces the paper topic (1-3 sentences). Below are some helpful Introduction Sentence Starters. Choose one or create your own.
- Narrow the general topic to the specific issue you have researched
- Give an overview of any issues involved with the subject (1-2 sentences)
- If any of the following apply, add them next:
 - Define of any key terminology need to understand the topic
 - Reveal the controversial nature of the subject (argumentative papers only)
 - Highlight background information on the topic needed to understand the direction of the paper
- The introduction must end with a THESIS statement (1-2 sentences) that is **your Research Question turned into a statement**. This THESIS tells the reader what the overall paper will focus on and lists the main points you will make in the paper or the topics you will be touching on.

SUBMITTING:

- You will develop your Introduction (including your underlined Intro Sentence Starter and your Research Question turned into a Thesis Statement) and submit it to me for feedback and grading.

(Thanksgiving Break = 11/28-12/1)

Step 7: Evidence and Citing - Part 1

Also Week of 11/18-11/26

Sometimes new research writers are surprised or hesitant to use too many citations.

No! That's the wrong perspective on this. You want to PROVE that all of your information came from SOMEWHERE ELSE because who are you in the greater scheme of research? NO ONE! You want official, vetted source information.

You will learn:

- How to integrate quotes and data into your own sentences and paragraphs
- How to add commentary about that evidence to your paper
- How to set up the in-text [parenthetical citations](#) (which you will finish in Step 9)

SUBMITTING:

- There will be nothing to submit in this step because I will review your citations when I look at your Draft (in step 8)
- It is important to note that these temporary citations are NOT the final APA citations that are required in your Final Paper.

Step 8: WRITE!

Weeks of 11/25, 12/9, 12/16

Draft due Tu. 12/10

You will write the majority of your paper at this point. Your Draft will:

- be double spaced (I'll show you how to do that)
- have a comprehensive intro (which you have already written and received feedback on)
- include many body paragraphs that explain and give evidence to support your POINTS
- integrate your quoted evidence and data
- Use in-text parenthesis with numbers that refer to your numbers sources (I'll show you how to do that)
- include a [closing /conclusion](#) (I'll show you how to do that)

You will also have the sample papers to help guide you.

SUBMITTING:

- Your draft of the paper is due on 12/10.

Step 9: Write an Annotated APA Bibliography, Finish Your APA Citations (Part 2) Week of 12/9

Design an APA Cover Page, and Paginate Your Paper

While I work on your Drafts, you will develop an APA Annotated Bibliography. This is a standard Bibliography (Resource List) that also includes a summary of each source and how you are using it in your paper.

Writing an APA Annotated Bibliography

[What is APA?](#) (or MLA or Chicago Style??)

What are Bibliographic Entries (vs. In-Text Citations)

[Making an APA Annotated Bibliography](#)

Building Final In-Text APA Parenthetical Citations

Once you know your Bibliography is accurate, you can build your FINAL in-text, [parenthetical APA citations](#).

Creating an APA Cover Page

[Sample](#)

[Notes for the Sample](#)

Paginating Your Paper

SUBMITTING:

- You will submit your Annotated Bibliography for my review no later than 12/17
- You will not be required to submit your In-Text, Parenthetical APA Citations or Cover Page, but if you want me to look at anything for accuracy, you will be able to show them to me during our class time.

Step 10: Submitting Your Final Research Paper and Checklist

due F. 12/20

You will make all appropriate revisions to your Research Paper Draft based on the feedback you have received.

Then you will use the [Research Paper Editing Checklist](#) to make sure you have completed all required components of the Final Research Paper.

SUBMITTING:

- You will submit the Final Paper **and** completed Checklist to me for grading **no later than Friday December 20**
- This paper will count 3x in your Q4 grade (approx. 60%).
- You will lose 10 points per each day late.