

The Research Connection Work Packet

Part 1 Planning The Paper - Student Work Page

Make a copy of this page and save in your drive.

1. First you must plan.

What is your purpose?

There are a wide variety of reasons to be writing along with types of essays.

	Narrative essay, in which you are telling a story
	Expository essay, in which you will explain or clarify a topic;
	Argumentative essay, in which you are making a claim and supporting it with evidence.
	Other : _____

What is your topic?

Be sure to pay attention to the guidelines that have been given to you, so you don't waste any time throughout the writing and research process. As you are narrowing your topic be sure to double check the following points.

- It should be narrow/broad enough for the required length.
- It should be relevant.
- It should be interesting.
- It should **not** be common. (New and interesting topics are always better to keep your teacher's attention.)

To help you and your reader, you will need to create a **thesis statement**. This is a one sentence summary of what the essay will be about, and is usually put at the end of the first paragraph. Be aware, as you research, you may rethink the topic of your essay, and therefore, need to change your thesis statement

Type your thesis statement here:

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Part 2 Collecting Information - Student Work Pages

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Pre-research Questioning

Now that you know why and about what you are going to write, ask yourself questions to help guide your research. (The boxes will grow as you type)

What do I know about this topic?
What do I need to know/learn about this topic?
What does my audience need to learn about this topic?
Other question:
Other question:
Other question:

Finding & Evaluating Resources

The Online Stacks, part of the Swainston Middle School Library website, offers several excellent resources. The encyclopedias and the databases are resources that offer more information than you will need and can use. When you use these provided resources, you can be certain that the information will be accurate, reliable, and appropriate. As you look at the library website (www.lvalibrary.net) for the online resources or for a book from the catalog, make an inventory of resources that you would like to go back to. When you find a resource, be sure that you evaluate it (especially if it did not come from the LVA library), by putting the resource through the Crap test. Lastly, find more than the number that your teacher may have required as some might not end up working out for you. Additional evaluation table pages are available at the Research Connection.

Call Number / Online Source (link)	Title and Author of Resource
Resource Evaluation	
C urrency	
R eliability	
A uthority	
A ccuracy	
P urpose	

Call Number / Online Source (link)	Title and Author of Resource
Resource Evaluation	
C urrency	
R eliability	
A uthority	
A ccuracy	
P urpose	

Taking Notes

As you take notes put the information in your own words to help you avoid plagiarism as you write your paper. However, remember, that the purpose of research is not for you to repeat the words, ideas or conclusions of others but for you to reach your own. Nevertheless, it isn't enough for you to put things in your own words. You must use your research to reach new, personal, and unique conclusions of your very own.

This is an example of a template for a place to take notes; blank ones are on the next page. You can do this on notecards or type onto this form. You should only use a note card for one piece of information or one quote. The Note Topic title will help you organize your final paper. The Citation section will help you build your Work Cited page. The Notes section is where you will type your information.

Many of the resources at the library website will create a citation for you. If you use a book or magazine, however, you will need to create a citation yourself. Be sure to follow the style (MLA, APA, etc.) that is required by your teacher. Destiny Discover can build a citation for books from the library. You can also find resources on proper citations online or create citations at sites such as [Citation Machine](#), [Easy Bib](#), or [Bib Me](#).

Note Topic:	COVID-19's place of origin
Citation:	"Coronavirus: COVID-19." <i>Gale In Context Online Collection</i> , Gale, 2020. <i>Gale In Context: High School</i> , https://link.gale.com/apps/doc/VHLNPX325837945/SUIC?u=nv_swainston&sid=SUIC&xid=7847416e . Accessed 5 May 2020.
Notes:	First appeared in Chinese city Wuhan in late 2019. Early research shows that it has developed through evolution/natural selection, and was not man made. Because it is similar to a corona virus that is found in bats, some theorize that it started there then somehow moved to humans. Some also theorize that it may have not originally made people sick and then evolved to a kind of virus that did cause illness.

Note Topic:	
Citation:	
Notes:	

Note Topic:	
Citation:	
Notes:	

Note Topic:	
Citation:	
Notes:	

Note Topic:	
Citation:	
Notes:	

Part 3 Organizing Information - Student Work Pages

Once you have found all the information that you will need, organize it in such a way that it will make sense to both you, the writer, and the person reading your paper. Your paper will begin with the introductory paragraph which has your topic sentence as the last sentence. Here you are telling your reader about what they will read. The last paragraph will be your conclusion where you bring all of your ideas together to make your overall point. The body of your essay, everything between the introduction and conclusion, is where you will present all of your evidence to the reader. This must be done logically to guide your reader each step of the way. To do this you may create an outline or use some kind of a graphic organizer like a bubble map

An Outline

In this template for an outline, you can fill in the blanks using the Note topic heading of each of your note cards to create an organization for your essay.

I. Introduction _____

Thesis Statement _____

II. Body

1. First Point

Topic Sentence _____

A. _____

B. _____

C. (Conclusion and lead-in) _____

2. Second Point

Topic Sentence _____

A. _____

B. _____

C.(Conclusion and lead-in)_____

3. Third Point

Topic Sentence_____

A._____

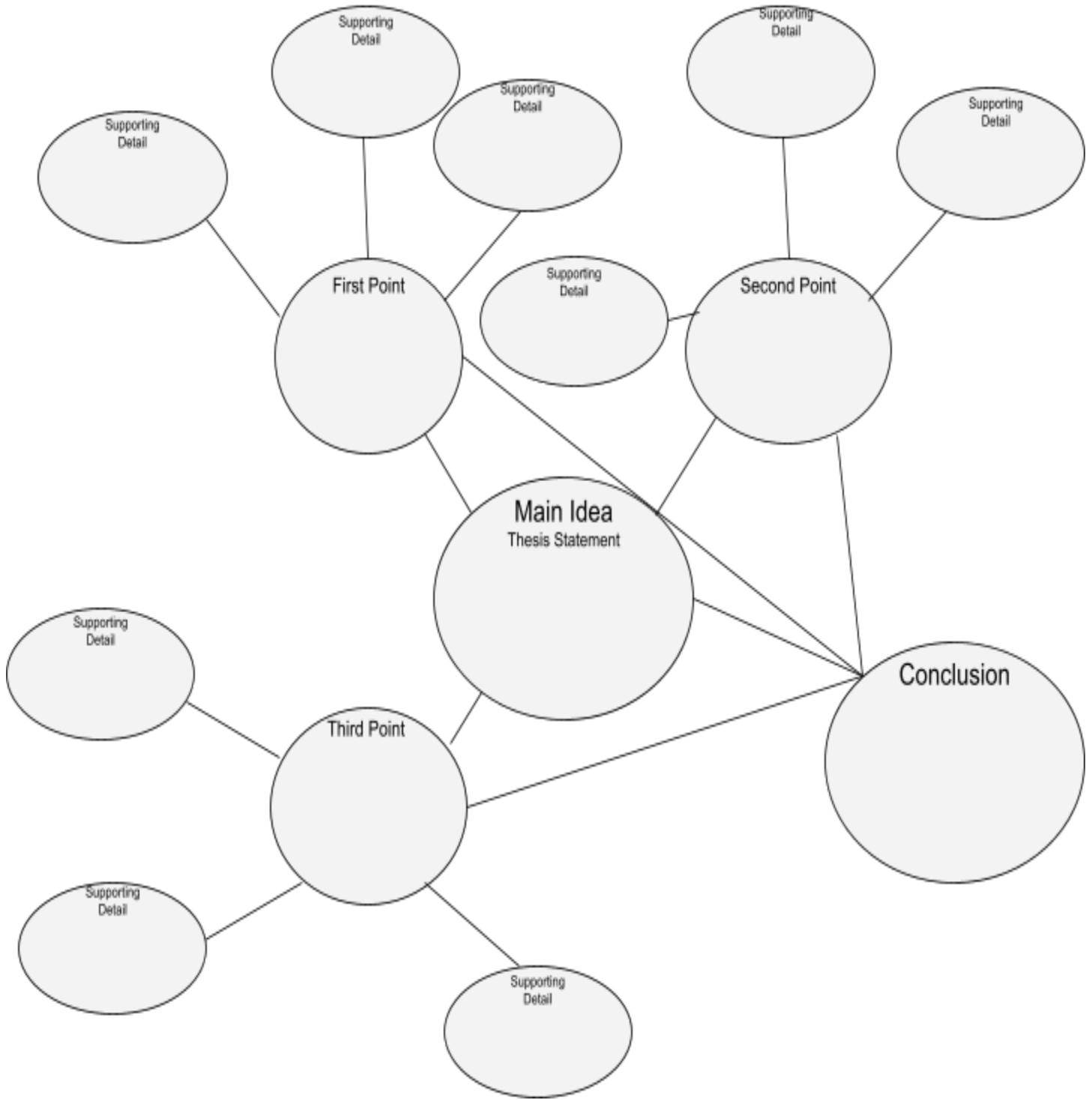
B._____

C.(Conclusion and lead-in)_____

III. Conclusion

Graphic Organizer--Bubble Map

In this template for a bubble map, you can fill in the bubbles using the Note topic heading of each of your note cards to create an organization for your essay. (By clicking on the Bubble Map, you can go to the drawing tool and add text boxes to the bubbles.)



Part 4 Creating Final Paper - Student Work Pages

Make a copy of this page and save in your drive.

Once you have collected and ordered your information, you are ready to write. Don't worry about getting things perfect the first time you put it on paper. Writing is a process, and you will rewrite and edit before you are finished.

On the following pages, there is a template of an essay that you may want to follow. To use it, you will copy this page as it says above and save it to your drive and then delete this first page. But be sure to pay attention to suggestions that are made on this page, before you do so.

First, once you delete this first page, you will want to change all of the margins to 1 inch. Also be sure that you are using a font and a font size that your teacher requires or recommends so he or she can easily read all of your hard work. Your paper should also be double-spaced.

This template is an example of a basic five paragraph essay: an introduction, three body paragraphs, and a conclusion. It is possible that you need to write more paragraphs, so you may need to add some paragraphs to this example. That is fine as this is just a starting point.

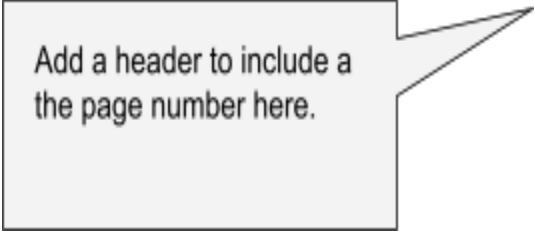
Don't forget that the last page is your Work Cited page. This is a listing of your resources that you use in the writing of your paper. It must be alphabetical in order. You should have included the correct citation as a part of your note pages/cards. Whenever you include researched information, you must include [in-text citations](#) based upon your citations in the work cited page.

Your Name

Your Teacher's Name

The Class/Period

The Date



Add a header to include a
the page number here.

Your Papers Title

This is your introductory paragraph. You should start in such a way as to grab your reader's attention. It is your reader's first impression, so make them want to stick around to the end. The final sentence will be your thesis statement which will tell your reader what your paper will be about.

In a standard school essay, you may have three points that you are required to make. The first body paragraph is where you begin presenting your research to the reader and the conclusions that you have reached and make your first point. It may be your strongest point because you want to start with a bang, or it might be your second strongest, because you want to end your paper with a bang. There is no correct way or wrong way to order your information; what is important is using an organisation that works best for your particular essay.

The second body paragraph consists of a second point that you bring to your reader. Here is an example of an in-text citation that you will use after a direct quote, a paraphrase, a summary, or any information from one of your resources listed on the Work Cited page (Hubbard 32). The in-text citation is made up of the first important word of a citation, which is usually the author's last name, and the page number, and it is within the period. If there is no author listed, just use the first important word such as the following example (Education and Technology). Along with the Work Cited page, in-text citations are an important part to ensure that writers don't plagiarize even unintentionally.

The third body paragraph is where you will present that final point. It may be your strongest point or second strongest point. You probably don't want to use your weakest point as the last thing your reader reads, may stick with them the longest.

The final paragraph will be your conclusion. Since the reader has gotten this far, be thoughtful to connect your points together; show your topics relevance to your readers, or possibly suggest solutions or actions that can be taken. It's your last chance to leave a lasting impression. However, it isn't the last thing that your reader will see, at least if you did research. Continue scrolling to the next page for the Work Cited page.

Work Cited

(Delete this paragraph if you use this template to create your own essay. This is a collection of random resources to show you what a work cited page looks like. Notice that each citation is using what is called a hanging indent. That means that the first line is hanging over all of the other lines. This is the opposite of a regular paragraph where the first line is indented. It is also double-spaced, just like the rest of the paper.)

"Education and Technology." *Gale In Context Online Collection*, Gale, 2019. *Gale In Context: High School*,
https://link.gale.com/apps/doc/BFYAPX780114492/SUIC?u=nv_swainston&sid=SUIC&xid=84b6c62f. Accessed 6 May 2020.

Evans, Andrea E. "Education." *World Book Advanced*, World Book, 2020,
www.worldbookonline.com/advanced/article?id=ar174220. Accessed 6 May 2020

Hubbard, Frances K., and Lauren Spencer. *Writing to Inform*. Rosen Central, 2012.

Lenburg, Jeff. *The Facts On File Guide to Research, Second Edition*. Facts On File, 2010, *Infobase eBooks*, ebooks.infobase.com/PortalPlaylists.aspx?wID=107834&ISBN=9781438132990,
Accessed 6 May 2020.