

Winning Research Questions

USE THIS CHECKLIST TO HONE & REFINE YOUR RQ

PERSONAL INTEREST

☐ I am interested in this topic because _____

☐ I hope I learn _____
_____ by researching this topic.

☐ Teacher approved on _____
date .

FEASIBILITY OF THE TOPIC

I found _____ academic
sources related to my question. ☐

The question relates to the area
I am writing in (ex. older than 10
years for a history paper) ☐

Teacher approved on _____
date . ☐

DIFFERENT PERSEPCTIVES

☐ The arguments experts have on this
topic are _____

☐ The three main positions on the
"answer" to my topic are: _____

METHODOLOGY TO ANSWER RQ

How will I answer this question?
(ex. how do historians answer
questions differently from
biologists?) ☐

What is my plan for answering this
question (what ACTION will I take,
ex. interviewing experts) ☐

FOCUSING THE RQ

FINALIZING THE RQ

☐ I have focused my research on _____ time period

☐ I have focused on _____ geographic area(s)

☐ Teacher approved on _____ date .

After looking at sources and perspectives I need to change my rq (yes/no)

I will narrow my rq to include

Finalized RQ approved by teacher:

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