

Choosing a Title

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Titles can be chosen by:

- teachers and/or students

How to choose research titles?

- Brainstorming to ideas
- Choosing a subject that will enable you to read and understand relevant literature
- Making the topic manageable and check if it has adequate, relevant material
- Listing all the keywords
- Ensuring flexibility
- Defining the topic as a concentrated research question
- Reading more research on the topic
- Formulating an effective thesis statement

Smoking
Education
Global Warming
Zoo Animals

Problems

Too broad topics include:

1. too much information
2. easily broken up into smaller parts
3. title can be summed up into no less than two sentences
4. entire books written about it

Solutions: Applying WH questions:

Smoking

(Who, Where) Effects of smoking on boys in high school.

(What) Negative effects of smoking on boys in high school.

Zoo Animals

(Why, What) Displaying zoo animals is important for conservation efforts.

(How) Displaying animals in zoos helps conservation efforts of rain forests.

Problems

Too Narrow:

1. Few resources
2. Lack of keywords to describe the title

Teaching how to hold pencils in Examinations.

The Role of Verb “to be” in Improving Students’ Writing Skill.

Solutions

- Explore related issues.
- Compare or contrast topic with another topic.
- Choose alternative that is not as recent.
- Find a related topic that's not as popular.

Quiz

Air pollution in urban areas

Too Broad Too Narrow Just Right

Respiratory diseases in children in high-density urban areas

Too Broad Too Narrow Just Right

Environmental consequences of California's October 2007 forest fires

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Polar bear adaptation to global warming in the Arctic

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Renewable energy in the United States

Too Broad Too Narrow Just Right

Sierra Club campaign to close down 1970s-era coal plants in Texas

Too Broad Too Narrow Just Right

Check the titles of research projects of last year

Start brainstorming about a title

Remember

1. Your area of interest
2. Your background knowledge
3. Availability of resources
4. Apply the WH question technique