

Summer Assignment: AP Research

Dear Researcher,

We must, first and foremost, congratulate you on your interest in challenging yourself with the AP Capstone program. The skills that you have and will continue to acquire due to the Capstone program are paramount in your post-high school success.

Now, down to business. The following summer work has been created after much consideration and discussion with other AP Capstone colleagues. We am NOT about busy work, but there are some concepts and items that you need to establish for yourself prior to starting AP Research. These are concepts that should be considered while taking long walks on the beach, while sitting in the back of the car on a road trip, while trying to fall asleep at camp, while playing video games, or whatever summer activity enhances your life. Know that you will be asked to dig deep, so please start now.

All work will be due on the day that we return to school. Only work turned in on time will be accepted for full credit.

We look forward to working with you again next year. If you feel concerned, bewildered, overwhelmed, confused, frustrated, or any combination of the previously listed, please do not hesitate to contact either of us. We will support you, simple as that. We will be checking my email all summer, so feel free to contact us!

Best Wishes, Mrs. Carlson & Mrs. Carter

CCarlson@everettsd.org & NCarter@everettsd.org

How will I turn in my assignment?

Please type (in MLA format) your responses and print them out. You will turn them in to Mrs. Carlson or Ms. Carter on the first day of school. No late assignments will be accepted for full credit.

What do I turn in?

1. Typed responses to questions 1-9 (as listed in column 3 of the chart).
2. Annotated bibliography in response to A (as listed in column 4 of the chart).
3. Two 200-300-word reflections in response to B & C (as listed in column 4 of the chart).
4. One 100-word reflection in response to D (as listed in column 4 of the chart).
5. Your attempt at writing a research question.

Summer Research Question Work

Similar to AP Seminar, College Board wants you to present your AP Research academic paper with a leading question. The following concepts are things to consider when attempting to build an AP Research leading question. Complete the chart requirements and write your initial question. Remember, the topic you decide to work with must hold your interest for the entire year. Sit and reflect about your true interests for this course prior to completing this chart.

Creating a Research Question: Complete the following reflection questions on an electronic reflection document. The following elements are critical when attempting to build your research question. Remember the four major concepts -focus, scope, value, and feasibility. After answering the questions in this chart, attempt to write your research question.

Concept	Description	Reflection Questions to Answer (Required)	Additional Work (Required)
<p>Focus</p> <hr/> <p>Research Discipline And Topic</p>	<p>*Discipline Lens or section of focus ~Art ~History ~Humanities ~Social Sciences ~Mathematics ~Hard Sciences *Topic: Specific interest within a discipline that creates the basics of your research question</p>	<p>1.What discipline do you feel you are most successful in at school?</p> <p>2.What discipline would you enjoy working in during your research?</p> <p>3.What details can you add to your discipline to shape your topic interest?</p>	<p>*Gather 5 research articles in the discipline of your interest.</p> <p>A. Create an annotated bibliography page for these 5 sources (see example attached)</p>
<p>Scope</p> <hr/> <p>Depth and Size of your research project</p>	<p>*Context: The specific setting of your research</p> <p>*Variables: The items/people/situations/issues/concepts being studied and/or manipulated</p>	<p>4.What specific things will you study? People? Animals? Things? Concepts? Theories?</p> <p>5.How will you work with the people/animals/things/concepts/theories that you will research?</p>	<p>*Find a current discussion about your topic. Look for contrasting views.</p> <p>B. Write a 200-300 word review of what you found when looking at this discussion. You must cite your sources.</p>

<p>Value</p> <hr/> <p>Contribution to the Body of Knowledge</p>	<p>The value of your research is determined by how your contribution enhances what is already known about the topic. You are expected to either add to the current conversation of a discipline or use multiple discipline conversations to create new knowledge.</p>	<p>6. Will your research change the way we currently see the topic?</p> <p>7. How will your research benefit society or your discipline of study?</p>	<p>C. Write a 200-300 word reflection regarding questions 6 & 7.</p>
<p>Feasibility</p> <hr/> <p>Possibility of Research</p>	<p>Time, money, and resources can play a major part in determining the ability to complete your research.</p> <p>You will have around two months to complete your actual research project.</p>	<p>8. Who might be able to help you with your research?</p> <p>9. What would you need physically and/or monetarily to complete your research?</p>	<p>College Board expects you to have a consultant. Building a professional relationship with someone invested in your topic will strengthen your Academic paper.</p> <p>D. Write a 100-word reflection regarding your connection to anyone who could help with the research and/or if you would need resources to complete this interaction.</p>

<p>Research Question</p>	<p>Now that you have gathered some background information on your topic, write a research question.</p> <p>Things to consider:</p> <p>Problem Statement - It may be helpful to write a problem statement first, where you identify the issue/topic you are exploring. Then turn this problem statement into a question.</p> <p>Specific – The question should be focused and provide context.</p> <p>Variables – Both the independent (manipulated) and dependent (responding) variables should appear in your question. For some topics, it might be easier to think of this as including a potential cause and effect in your question.</p>
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Creating an Annotated Bibliography

Both parts taken together are called an “entry.” Entries are typically organized in alphabetical order according to the bibliography information, such as the last name of the author or the title of a book.

Part 1: The bibliography line, which should be written according to MLA format.

Part 2: The summary paragraph

- (1) a sentence or two that describes the author’s credentials, purpose, and audience
- (2) a brief “capsule” summary of its content
- (3) a sentence at the end of the summary that explains “why this source seems valuable and how you might use it”

Example:

Lamott, Anne. *Bird by Bird: Some Instructions on Writing and Life*. Anchor Books, 1995.

Lamott's book offers honest advice on the nature of a writing life, complete with its insecurities and failures. Taking a humorous approach to the realities of being a writer, the chapters in Lamott's book are wry and anecdotal and offer advice on everything from plot development to jealousy, from perfectionism to struggling with one's own internal critic. In the process, Lamott includes writing exercises designed to be both productive and fun. Lamott offers sane advice for those struggling with the anxieties of writing, but her main project seems to be offering the reader a reality check regarding writing, publishing, and struggling with one's own imperfect humanity in the process. Rather than a practical handbook to producing and/or publishing, this text is indispensable because of its honest perspective, its down-to-earth humor, and its encouraging approach. Chapters in this text could easily be included in the curriculum for a writing class. Several of the chapters in Part 1 address the writing process and would serve to generate discussion on students' own drafting and revising processes. Some of the writing exercises would also be appropriate for generating classroom writing exercises. Students should find Lamott's style both engaging and enjoyable.