

How to Write a Persuasive Research Paper



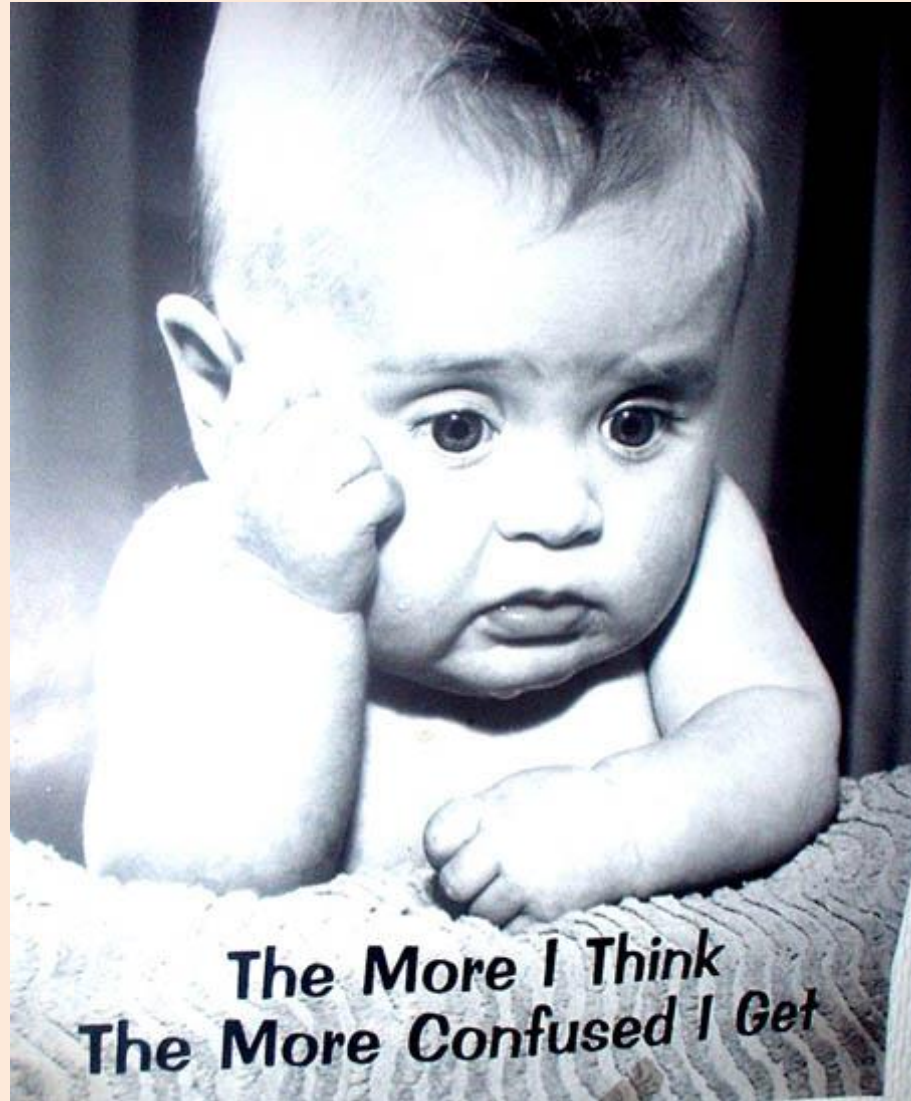
Why Do You Need To Learn How To Write A Research Paper?

- **Because in high school and college you will be asked to write *many* research papers, and you need to learn what goes into writing a successful paper.**
- **This PowerPoint presentation will give you step-by-step directions on how most high school and college teachers/professors expect you to write a basic research paper.**

Learning Objectives:

- ✓ You will learn how to choose a topic.
 - You will choose a persuasive topic, which means a topic about which people would argue.
- ✓ You will learn how to write a thesis statement.
 - One sentence that summarizes what your paper is about, or what you are trying to prove. Your thesis should state your position on your topic. It should be stated in your introduction.
- ✓ You will be able to understand the difference between plagiarism and acceptable paraphrasing.
- ✓ You will be able to learn how to edit your paper, and make necessary changes.
- ✓ You will learn how to use “parenthetical notations.”

Where Do I Begin?



How To Write Your Research Paper:

Follow These Instructions Step-by-step!

Materials needed: Index cards; Microsoft Word; Research Packet Information

_____ Step #1: Select topics of interest. Your final topic must be a persuasive topic on which you will take a stand and defend in your paper.

_____ Step #2: Find a minimum of FIVE different sources that can be used to answer your essential question. Make sure you use reputable sources. Do not use Wikipedia. Do not rely on all Dot Com sources. Use database info is possible. You must try to find the most accurate information you can. (You must turn in hard copies of your sources for points.)

_____ Step #3: Read through your sources and highlight all the important info that relates to your thesis statement and your argument about your topic.

How To Write Your Research Paper:

Follow These Instructions Step-by-step!

_____ Step #4: Create a bibliography card for each source. You only need to do these cards for sources you will actually cite in your paper. You will need this info to type into Easy Bib. You will need to alphabetize the source cards by the first word of the source.

_____ Step #5: Using the highlighted info in your source pages, take notes on all five sources. See the Note-Taking procedures to ensure that this is done correctly. You will need note cards to submit. (You must turn in your note cards for points.)

_____ Step #6: Organize an outline, using the outline template and the info on your notes cards. Then, write or type the outline and submit it. (You must turn in your outline for points.)

_____ Step #7: Arrange your note cards in order to help you prove your thesis and to follow the structure of your outline.

How To Write Your Research Paper:

Follow These Instructions Step-by-step!

_____ Step #8: Complete the Guide to “Writing Your Thesis Statement and Introduction Paragraph” handout, ensuring that you have ideas that will be addressed in the formulation of your thesis. Develop an introductory paragraph. Be sure to hook your reader and provide a transition into your first sub-topic.

_____ Step #9: Begin to type the body of your essay, making sure to insert citations after every piece of information. **Note: Consecutive sources do not call for citations on every single piece of information; your citation falls at the end of the string of citations. You should have at least 3 paragraphs in the body.

_____ Step #10: Generate a conclusion, ensuring that you take time to re-state your thesis and provide a broader look at the application of your topic.

_____ Step #11: The introduction, body, and conclusion will make up the rough draft of your paper. You should have at least 5 paragraphs. (You must turn in your rough draft for points.)

How To Write Your Research Paper:

Follow These Instructions Step-by-step!

_____ **Step #12: Proofread your essay, paying close attention to the rubric provided.**

_____ **Step #13: Research papers should be typed. Use size 12 font and use a professional font (Times New Roman is recommended). The paper should be double-spaced with 1 inch margins. Indent your paragraphs.**

_____ **Step #14: Create a Title Page using the MLA format. This will be the first page of your paper.**

_____ **Step #15: Make sure you have put together the Works Cited Page correctly using your source cards. Sources need to be listed in alphabetical order. Use [Easy Bib](#) to make sure your citations are written correctly. This page should be the last page in your paper.**

How To Write Your Research Paper:

Follow These Instructions Step-by-step!

_____ Step #16: Make sure you have included and correctly done all items on the Research Paper Rubric.

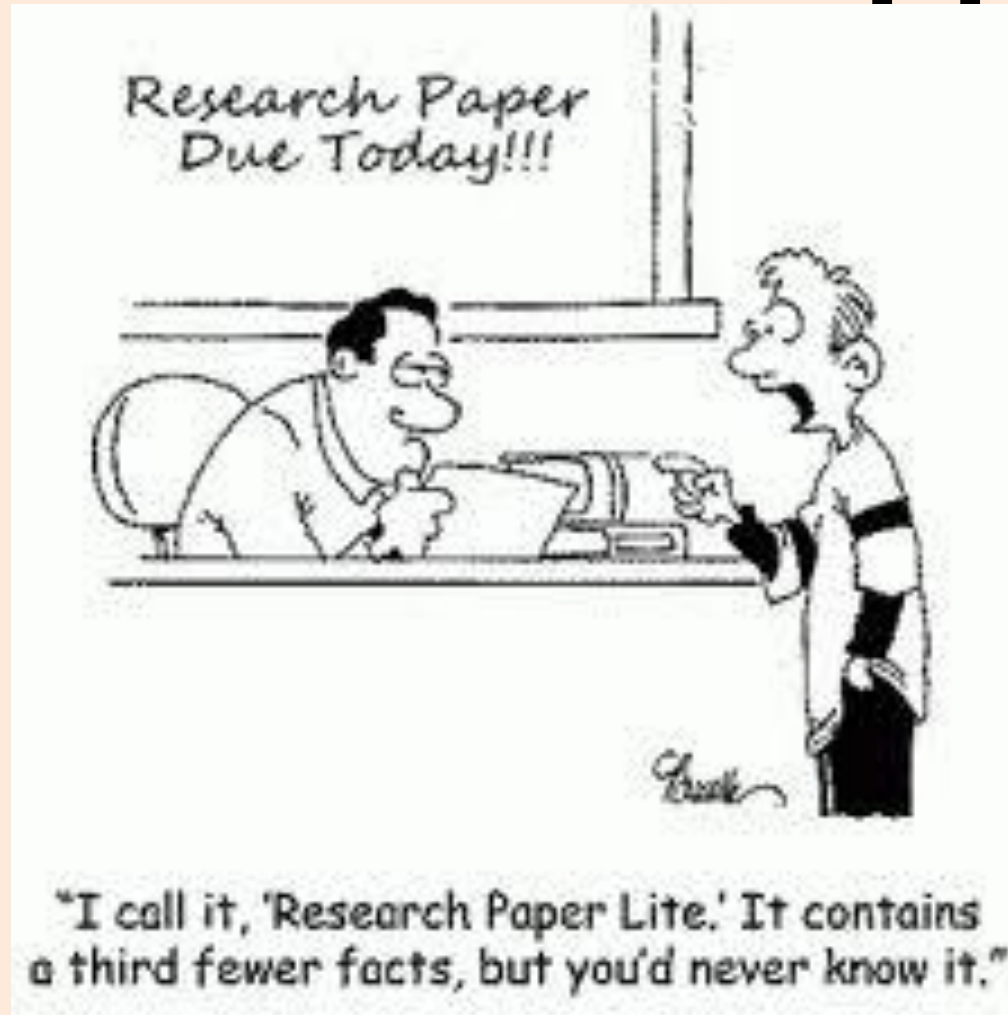
_____ Step #17: Submit hard copies of your essay, with title page first, then the paper, then with the Works Cited Page last. Make sure these papers are stapled or put in a clear plastic cover. (Note: Final papers will not be accepted until all preliminary work is completed.)

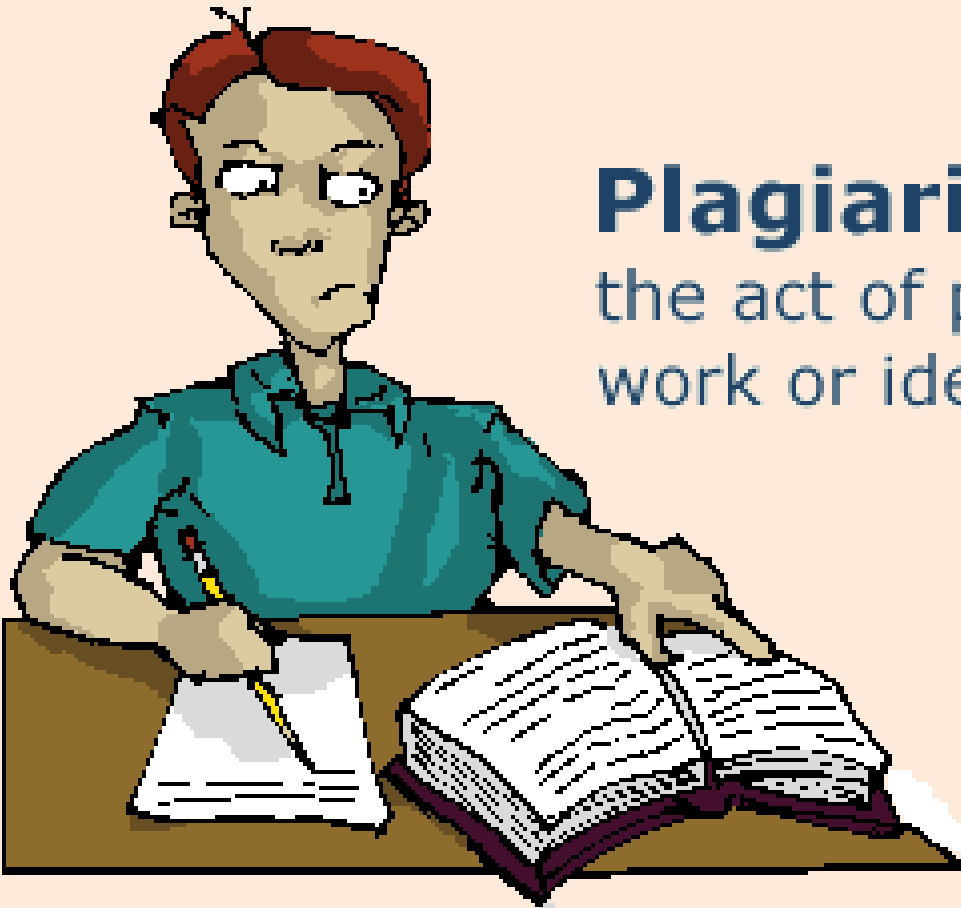
_____ Step #18: (Optional)--Email electronic copies of your final paper to me (swaskiewicz@ccps.us).

Remember, your paper is supposed to present one side of a debatable topic. It is a **persuasive research paper!**



Don't let this happen!





Plagiarism:

the act of presenting another's work or ideas as your own.



Paraphrase!!!

Plagiarism v. Paraphrasing Samples

Direct quote from research:

“Japan’s beautiful Mount Fuji last erupted in 1707 and is now classified as dormant. Dormant volcanoes show no signs of activity, but they may erupt in the future.”

Non-plagiarized paraphrase:

Mount Fuji, the highest mountain in Japan, is actually a dormant volcano. Dormant means that it is not active. The last time Mount Fuji erupted was in 1707, and there is always the possibility of a future eruption.

Direct quote from research:

“Three weeks after Katrina, warnings of the arrival of Hurricane Rita sent residents of cities such as Houston, Texas, rushing to evacuate, fearing for their lives. Fortunately, Hurricane Rita turned out to be much less severe than Katrina. However, mass evacuations like this bring hazards of their own, as panicking drivers may cause accidents on the jammed roads.”

Non-plagiarized paraphrase:

Shortly after Hurricane Katrina devastated the city of Houston, Texas, a warning for a new hurricane named Rita was broadcast, which caused many people to panic and flee the city. However, the mass departure of people leaving Houston at the same time could have caused many car accidents, even though the hurricane turned out to be not as dangerous as Katrina.

Proofread, Proofread, & Proofread!!!

- 1. Are all words spelled correctly? (Use a paper or online dictionary if unsure!)**
- 2. Did I capitalize the beginning of each sentence and all proper nouns?**
- 3. Did I punctuate correctly?**
- 4. Do I use grammar correctly?**
- 5. Did I answer all of the topic questions, and fulfill all of the requirements on my rubric?**
- 6. Did I include an introduction and conclusion?**
- 7. Did I type the paper using the correct font type, size, line spacing and margin requirements?**
- 8. Did I paraphrase all content?**
- 9. Did I use parenthetical notations for quotes?**
- 10. Do my sentences make sense when read aloud?**
- 11. Have I had my paper peer edited?**
- 12. Does my paper flow well?**
- 13. Did I include a Works Cited page?**

Finished!!! You did it!!!

