

RESEARCH

Research in History can be tricky. Some sources, although initially promising, can be so detailed that students get bogged down in so many unimportant details that they cannot 'see *the forest from the trees.*' To avoid missing the Big Picture students should first read a general source on their topic, and then look at more detailed information.

****Important****

Students **must** have at least one source as a **hard copy** (book, article, magazine, etc.)



SOURCES:

You **MUST** document **ALL** sources you have used in detail in a Bibliography/Works Cited List (*students can use the Citation/Bibliography creator in Google docs*) in **APA** format.

Book:

Author's Last Name, First Initial. Middle Initial. (Year). *Title of book*. Place of Publication: Publisher.

Website: Format varies depending on the type of document. The basic citation format includes:

Organization or Author's Last Name, First Initial. Middle Initial. (Publication Year, Month Day) *Title of document*. Print Publication Information. Retrieved Month Day, year, from URL

- a) **Archives:** An archive has original documents, which are like snapshots in time. Be sure to contact an archivist ahead of time and make an appointment.

Tip: Many local and national archives have on-line searchable databases, which are free and offer you information on a variety of topics.

- b) **Books:** Books and more books . . .
- c) **Encyclopedias:** The old way of looking for information, but a good starting point and available in your school library, or your local library.
- d) **Internet:** A good starting point, **but don't stop there!** Not all the information on the Internet is accurate, so be careful. Do not use the internet only!

Tip: Here are some websites to start with:

Canadian Encyclopedia - <https://www.thecanadianencyclopedia.ca/en>

Best of History Websites - <https://besthistorysites.net/>

Dictionary of Canadian Biography - <http://www.biographi.ca/en/index.php>

Historic Canada - www.historicacanada.ca

e) **Interview a family member:** Your parents and grandparents have memories of times gone by, and those memories are part of the history of this country they grew up in! They can tell you about all sorts of interesting things that happened years ago when they were growing up.

f) **Interview an expert:** There may be someone in your community who has knowledge about your topic. You'd be surprised how willing people are to share their stories. When you interview a person, be sure you have their permission to use what they say in your presentation and include their name in your Bibliography.

Tip: When you are going to interview someone, be sure to have your questions already written out. This will make it easier for you to just take notes and make your interview much more fun. These notes will help you with research later on so take as many as you can.

g) **Movies (documentaries and other programs):** These can provide useful information about your topic and let you see, through re-enactments or historical films how things really happened.

Tip: Be careful! Movie producers often add fictional elements to a historical event.

h) **Museums:** Not only are they filled with cool things, but they have thousands of stories. A museum might even have an exhibit on the topic you've selected.

i) **Newspapers:** Available through your local library

RESEARCH REPORT REQUIREMENTS

The most important work in a History Fair comes while working on the Research Paper. If a student researches well (*first looking at general sources, then slowly becoming more specific*) and works hard to communicate their knowledge in a clear and interesting way in their paper, the rest of the History Fair project will become quite easy. Students should incorporate a Christian Perspective throughout their written work.

The Research Paper will contain the following *four parts*:

1. **Introduction:** In the introduction a student should...
 - a) Establish the historical context or big picture surrounding their topic (e.g. *In a project on Sir Isaac Brock, a student should first explain what the War of 1812 is, who is fighting in it, etc....*)
 - b) In a few sentences summarize who / what their topic is and why he / it is important (e.g. *Sir Isaac Brock was a brilliant General who fought in the War of 1812, ultimately laying down his life in the defence of British North America*)
2. **Body:** In the body of the paper a student should...
 - a) Tell the storyline / give the facts about their topic.
 - b) This is the main part of the paper and should take up at least three-quarters of it.
3. **Conclusion:** In the conclusion a student should...
 - a) Explain the historical significance / relevance of their topic (why it is important) by again talking about the context or big picture surrounding their topic.
 - b) Discuss how their topic fits into the Christian Perspective of History
4. **Bibliography:**
 - a) In the bibliography a student will reference the books, internet sites, movies, or the like from which he / she found their information.
 - b) Unless given special permission, **at least three sources** must be used, **one of which must be a book**.

Research Paper Mode/Format:

In addition to the previous page please pay attention to the following:

Mode	The paper must be typed (Google Docs or Microsoft Word)
Title Page	The research paper must have a title page (<i>word count and student number must be included on the title page</i>)
Subheadings	The paper may contain sub-headings/titles throughout the report (<i>however subheadings should not be written as introduction, body, or conclusion</i>)
Pictures	It may contain pictures throughout as well as on its title page.
Length	It needs to be within 750 and 1500 words (roughly 2-4 pages).
Font	Typing font should be size 12 in a legitimate font such as Arial or Calibri. Larger fonts may be used for the 3-D display.
Word Count	A word count should be included on the title page.
Writing Mechanics	Special attention should be paid to spelling, grammar, and neatness since all three will be included in the student’s final mark. Your Social Studies teacher will not be able to edit your paper, so you will need to get a parent or another family member to assist you.

Submitting your Report:

1. All reports **MUST** be **PRINTED AND TURNED IN** to Google Classroom by ***Thursday February 8, 2024***

 WRITTEN REPORT (Due: February 8, 2024) :



Google Classroom

