6.1 Choosing a topic and identifying and refining a question

Below is a suggested process for identifying and refining a research question followed by some helpful prompting questions for learners.

Planning a research question

News items/current events/
reading/interests/
Global Perspectives topics

A Levels

Future course at
university

Identify one or more areas of interest

Explore in more detail: Where are the useful sources? What are the different views?
Identify sub-topics
Identify strands of opinion

Criticise and improve

Discuss with a supervisor

Construct several possible research questions

Select a focused research question