

How Do You Know You Have Been a Good Researcher at the End of a Project

Purpose

To reflect upon the values of a good question, and provide an outline research proposal.

Task

After reflecting on our question, let's compose an outline plan on how we would follow on from establishing our research question.

Values of a good research question

To make a research project manageable a good research question is essential. It guides the researcher as s/he looks for sources and information. It guides the writing. A great research project begins with a great and fun question.

Research questions should be established by reading different question papers, articles, , searching online. The question shouldn't be too easy or too difficult to answer. Questions should be analytical rather than descriptive.

The process of developing a research question can be broken down into four steps:

- Step 1: Choose a topic by identifying a broad area of interest
- Step 2: Find background information to help you understand your topic
- Step 3: Define your research question
- Step 4: Modify and refine your search question to achieve a manageable focus.

Examples of research questions:

1. *What effect does the daily playing of video games have on the engagement levels of those under 16 years old?*
2. *What are the long-term effects on the environment of using bamboo toothbrushes in place of regular plastic toothbrushes?*
3. *How does divorce cause students to perform on standardized tests?*
4. *What educational strategies help encourage safe driving in young adults?*
5. *How does listening to music while you work affect your overall performance?*

Outline of a research proposal

- **Introduction**

- state the problem
- Define terms
- methodology
- Research related literature projects
- significance of the study

- **Body**

- background check of the topic
- Present and analysis information collected

- **Conclusion**

- Write down the findings in the standard research style.