

RESEARCH/INVESTIGATION QUESTIONS

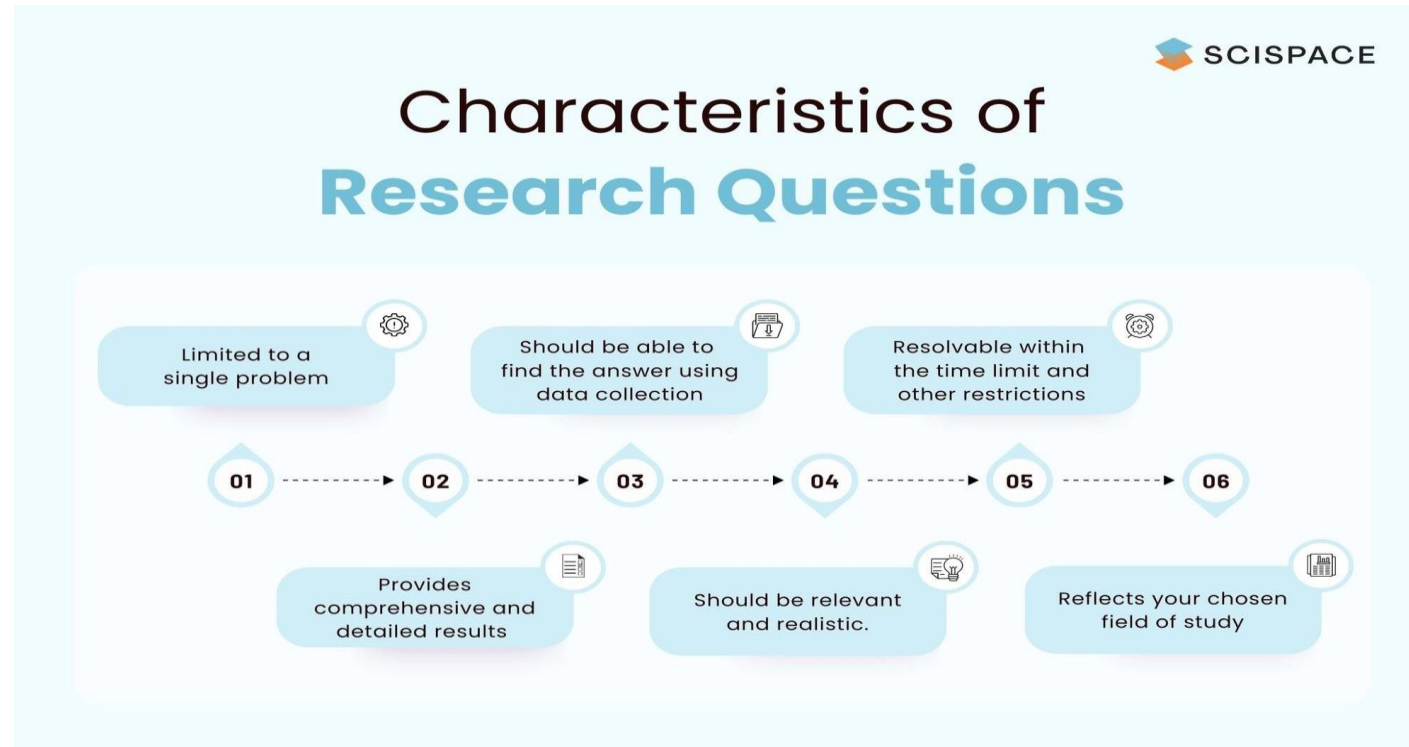
SCISPACE



Academic writing and research require a distinct focus and direction. A well-designed research question gives purpose and clarity to your research. In addition, it helps your readers understand the issue you are trying to address and explore.

You must pose a question in order to effectively address a research problem.

A good research question must have the following characteristics.



Below is a list of common SAMPLE research questions that can be used in a dissertation.

Research Question Type	Question
Descriptive	What are the properties of A?
Comparative	What are the similarities and distinctions between A and B?
Correlational	What can you do to correlate variables A and B?
Exploratory	What factors affect the rate of C's growth? Are A and B also influencing C?
Explanatory	What are the causes for C? What does A do to B? What's causing D?
Evaluation	What is the impact of C? What role does B have? What are the benefits and drawbacks of A?
Action-Based	What can you do to improve X?

The following are a few examples of research questions and research problems to help you understand how research questions can be created for a particular research problem.

Problem	Question
Due to poor revenue collection, a small-sized company ('A') in the UK cannot allocate a marketing budget next year.	What practical steps can the company take to increase its revenue?
Many graduates are now working as freelancers even though they have degrees from well-respected academic institutions. But what's the reason these young people choose to work in this field?	Why do fresh graduates choose to work for themselves rather than full-time? What are the benefits and drawbacks of the gig economy? What do age, gender, and academic qualifications do with people's perceptions of freelancing?

Steps to Write Research Questions



Strong Research Question Samples

Uncertain: How should social networking sites work on the hatred that flows through their platform?

Certain: What should social media sites like Twitter or Facebook do to address the harm they are causing?

Unfocused: What are the effects of global warming on the environment?

Focused: What are the most important effects of glacial melting in Antarctica on penguins' lives?

Too Simple: What are the U.S. doctors doing to treat diabetes?

Appropriately complex: Which factors, if any, are most likely to predict a person's risk of developing diabetes?