

Name: _____

Period: _____

Date: _____

I Search Assignment

Description:

The I-Search paper is designed to teach the writer and the reader something valuable about a chosen topic and about the nature of searching and discovery. The I-Search paper allows you to take an active role in your search, to hunt for facts and truths firsthand, and to provide a step-by-step record of the discovery process.

For this assignment, you will write a 2-3 page paper on your topic and an additional works cited page. You must have at least three sources (more would always be good): one must be a "print" source, the other two can be "electronic" (databases and websites).

Make sure that your sources are credible!

Topic:

The cardinal rule of the I-Search paper is to choose a topic that genuinely interests you and that you want to know more about. It can be something you know a lot or a little about. Because of the nature of the I-search, you cannot simply tell me what you already know for your research. Whatever you know, you are going to learn more, so find something that will engage you for a long period.

Format:

The I-Search paper should be written in four sections (Yes, you should label them.—No, you don't need to start a separate page for each.):

1. My Search Story:
2. My Search Results—what I did to go about learning more.
3. My Search Reflections
4. Works Cited Page

1. My Search Story:

- What do I already know or assume?
- Why I am interested in this topic?
- What I want to learn?
- Some advice here: the more specific your topic is, the easier it will be to write your essay. I suggest that you narrow your search to 2-3 very specific questions that you clearly identify at the end of your first section.

2. My Search Results:

- Research your topic thoroughly. Consult useful books, magazines, newspapers, films, tapes, and other sources for information.
- Do not feel obligated to tell everything, but highlight the happenings and facts you uncovered that were crucial to your hunt and contributed to your understanding of the topic.
- What new information did you learn about your topic?
- This section is also the part that should contain your citations of other sources.

3. My Search Reflections:

- After concluding your search, compare what you thought you knew and what you learned.
- Offer some personal commentary along the way such as “To my surprise, I discovered that...” and draw some conclusion about your topic.
- Refer specifically to the 2-3 questions that you identified in section one of your paper. If you found satisfying answers to those questions, explain why. If you didn’t, explain why not.

4. Works Cited Page:

- At the end of the paper, attach a formal Works Cited page in MLA format listing the sources that you used to write your paper. We will go over how to do a works cited page in class.
- Make SURE that you have a minimum of three sources with at least one print source.

Requirements:

Length: 2-3 pages

3 research sources

MLA style citations

MLA style works cited page

Double spaced

1 inch margins on all sides

Times New Roman font, 12 point size

1st person voice

Pages are numbered in the upper right hand corner with your last name.

2. Results of My Search

SOURCE #1 (Title + Author + Page Number)	INTERESTING FACT FROM THIS SOURCE (quoted, paraphrased, or summarized)
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SOURCE #2 (Title + Author + Page Number)	INTERESTING FACT FROM THIS SOURCE (quoted, paraphrased, or summarized)
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SOURCE #3 (Title + Author + Page Number)	INTERESTING FACT FROM THIS SOURCE (quoted, paraphrased, or summarized)
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What answers did I find?

What questions do I still have?

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English 9C.P.

I-Search Chart

readwritethink
INTERNATIONAL
Reading
Association **NCTE**

Why do these questions matter to me?

How might knowing answers to these questions help me in life?

What do I already know about these questions?

Sub-Question

Sub-Question

Main Question

Sub-Question

Where am I likely to find information on this topic and answers to these questions?

Sub-Question

What are search terms that will help me find answers to these questions?

I-SEARCH RESEARCH PAPER

Writer's Name: _____ Peer Editor's Name: _____

DIRECTIONS: Read the assigned I-Search Paper assigned to you very carefully. Using a colored pen, make the necessary corrections and proofreading marks on the student's paper. Then complete the following items below:

1. The writer's "My Search Story" was interesting and engaging for the reader.

Yes: _____ No: _____ Somewhat: _____
Comment: _____

2. A clear **thesis statement** was stated early in the "My Search Results" section of the paper.

Yes: _____ No: _____ Somewhat: _____
Comment: _____

3. The writer used **clear** and **simple** language to explain what he/she learned about the topic in the "My Search Results" sections of the paper.

Yes: _____ No: _____ Somewhat: _____
Comment: _____

4. The writer cited **several sources (3 or more)** in the "My Search Results" section of the paper.

Yes: _____ No: _____ Somewhat: _____
Comment: _____

5. The writer reflected on the research process by drawing conclusions or comparing what he/she thought he/she knew and what he/she found out about the topic.

Yes: _____ No: _____ Somewhat: _____
Comment: _____

6. The writer carefully proofread for **G.U.M. (Grammar, Usage, Mechanics) and Spelling**.

Yes: _____ No: _____ Somewhat: _____
Comment: _____