![C:\Users\16832\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\R6N0VIHE\MC900363242[1].wmf]() **Background Research**

When you do research, you want to find articles and books that will teach you something about the manipulated (independent) and responding (dependent) variables in your experiment. Learning about these will allow you to form a hypothesis based on intelligent and objective information. Once your experiments are completed, you will form a conclusion and your conclusion should be related to not only what you learned by performing your experiment, but also what you learned from your research.

It is important that you do not just look for basic, elementary, information. Your research should help you truly understand the science of your selected topic and the relationship of your manipulated and responding variables.

Your research must include AT LEAST 3 SOURCES:

* Must have at least 2 Internet sources (only from a .org, .edu, .gov site)
* 1 OTHER (encyclopedia, Internet, interview with an expert in the field, book, etc.)

To search for resources, it is best to identify some keywords. These should include: your manipulated (independent) and responding (dependent) variables; any words or phrases related to them; and any synonyms or acronyms. List your keywords below:

KEYWORDS:

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Once you have found your sources, complete the following forms to help you remember where you discovered your information. It is very important to be able to give the original author of your information the credit they deserve for putting the information together. More help on citing sources can be found at <http://citationmachine.net/index2.php> or <http://www.bibme.org/>.

Your sources should be cited in MLA format.

Example:

Source 1 –

List two very specific things learned from this source:

1.\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Source 2 -

List two very specific things you learned from this source:

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Source 3 -

List two very specific things you learned from this source:

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Bibliography:

A Bibliography is a list of the sources you used in your research. To finalize your Bibliography, rewrite each of the sources you listed on the previous pages in alphabetical order by author’s last name below. Be sure to use correct MLA Bibliographic format.

Source 1: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Source 2: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Source 3: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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 **Prior Research - Summary**

Before you begin, be sure you cite your work **Parenthetical Documentation.**

To do this, the name of the original author, the date of publication, and the pages where the information you are referring to can be found, are put in parenthesis after using their ideas. Examples using this quote from Carl Sagan found in:

Sagan, Carl, (2006) *Conversation with Carl Sagan*. University Press of Mississippi, Page 36.

*There are many hypotheses in science which are wrong. That's perfectly all right; they're the aperture to finding out what's right. Science is a self-correcting process (Sagan, 2006, Pg. 36).*

Now that you have completed your research and collected new information on your topic and your manipulated and responding variables, it is important to communicate this new information. *Summarize what you have learned in* ***3 paragraphs*** *(a minimum of 5 sentences each)*. The background information should take ***1 page in length doubled spaced, 12 size font, same style font***.

Pay attention to grammar, spelling, and sentence structure. Do not use the 1st person (I, we, my, etc.). Use introductory and concluding sentences. Be sure to give credit to the original authors of your information by using parenthetical documentation whenever you are writing about their information.

Paragraph 1:

* An introduction with a brief connection to the real world about your topic
* General information relating to your project (if applicable)
* Information that supports the hypothesis

Paragraph 2: (each bullet can be a sentence)

* The intent of this project is to…(what are you comparing?)
* The variable to be tested and changed is… (list the IV here)
* Any changes will be noted by… (how are you measuring the DV?)
* The research will show…. (what do you want your experiment to show?)