

Academic Services Unit Workshop: Researching

Analysing research topics or questions

- **Content expressions** tell you what an assignment is about
- **Limiting expressions** tell you about the scope of your investigations
- **Direction expressions** tell you what an assignment requires you to do.

Analysing research topics or questions



- ***Explain* why Australia's trade policy has moved away from the imposition of tariffs and *discuss* the effects this move is having on developing nations**

Direction Expressions

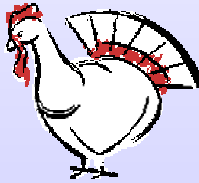
Limiting Expressions

Content – No imposition of tariffs and the effects

Analysing research topics or questions

Direction Expression

- *Compare* the habitat requirements of a ground-dwelling bird with those of a migratory bird



Content Expressions

Limiting Expressions



Some CONTENT are also LIMITING

TASK: Analysing research topics or questions

Find the Direction Expression, Content & Limiting Expressions in the following

- *Explain the effect of increased sales of mp3 and other digital audio media (such as Apple Ipod), on sale of music compact discs (CD) in Australia*



Generating ideas for research

- Brainstorming
 - make sure you do not judge your ideas during the brainstorming process
 - allow yourself the freedom to think
- Another method - Use the *why, what, who, how, when* and *where* questions

Generating ideas for research P 155

Globalisation

- What is _____?
- What are the effects of _____
- Why are people for or against?
- How is it happening?
- Where are its effects felt?
- Who is affected?
- Who is opposing or supporting?
- When will it be complete?



Developing a research plan P 155

- Outlines — the original outline for Working Communication
- Concept and mind maps P 156-157 see figure 6.4
- Fishbone diagrams P 157-158 see Figure 6.5

Primary, Secondary & Tertiary research material (not in textbook)

Primary sources include:

- Accounts by an eyewitness or the first recorder of an event, in written or other form. Examples are diaries, autobiographies, letters, minutes of meetings, news footage, newspaper articles.
- Data obtained through original research, statistical compilations or legal requirements. Examples are reports of scientific experiments, census records, **public** records.
- Creative works such as poetry, music, or art
- Artifacts such as arrowheads, pottery, furniture, and buildings.

Secondary sources are works that **interpret** the **primary** data, such as a book about eating disorders, a journal article about the role of tobacco in the colonial economy, or a critical review of a play.

Tertiary sources are works that compile, analyze, and digest **secondary sources**. General and specialized encyclopedias are familiar examples of **tertiary sources**.

Primary, Secondary & Tertiary research material (not in textbook)

Primary source:

Secondary source:

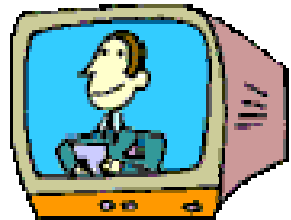
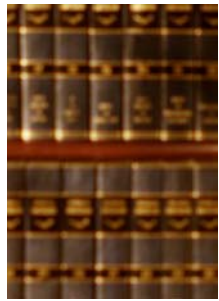
Tertiary source:



Journal Article



Encyclopaedia



Evaluating Sources

To ensure your sources are credible check

- the author's credentials and background
(eg: Is there a name at all? Does the source have a financial interest in the topic?)
- the publisher's credentials (eg: some publishers will publish if the author pays – these may not be credible)
- the level of scholarship (proper research methods and referencing)
- the age of the material

Tasks

- Find one suitable reference and one possible reference that you evaluate as having problems, for the following research paper:

“Explain the effect of increased sales of mp3 and other digital audio media (such as Apple Ipod), on sale of music compact discs (CD) in Australia.”