

RESEARCH PAPERS

Reports repeat;
Research Papers Explain

Research Papers

- Research requires/expects you to:
 - Locate and take notes from relevant sources
 - Critically evaluate/analyze those sources
 - Determine the relevant “bits” of information
 - Summarize or paraphrase those “bits” or ideas
 - **Synthesize** info from various sources to support **YOUR** viewpoint

RESEARCH PAPER

Does **NOT** have to be
persuasive

Informative papers are also
researched

Research Papers

Research is to find and share what’s
NEW about the subject

A research paper that only **repeats** what
its sources have said is a **failure**

Same old sources arguing the same old
things bores EVERYONE –

Research Papers

What’s the point of doing research if you
end exactly where you started?

What do **YOU** know now that you didn’t
before?

Research Paper Topics

Avoid subjects where you have too strong
of a viewpoint already

You **HAVE** to be willing to follow the
evidence and research where it goes

Research Paper Topics

You CAN'T just look for evidence that supports your pre-determined position

Scientific reasoning changes, evolves and adapts to follow the most current facts, evidence and statistics

Research Papers

Quality of sources is extremely important

Use the newest information, data, studies

Use the actual study from academic journals, not a reporter's analysis of the study

Research Papers

Use academic databases to find academic journals, not just general periodicals

Use more advanced searches on search engines to find better quality webpages

Use college-level or research library