

Next Steps *for writing a research paper*

Let's think about everything we've learned this week and put it all together today!

Here's what we've done the past few days:

- 1) We learned about how to find credible online sources and why it's important to consider things like **relevancy, authority, currency, accuracy, purpose, and bias**.
- 2) We actually looked at several reliable online sources and started identifying topics for research that we'd actually like to know more about!
- 3) We learned and practiced how to cite those online sources in order to give credit to the author. We even made a Works Cited page!
- 4) We learned a few different ways to use the good stuff we found in those articles about our topic— how to paraphrase and how to use quotes to add to our own credibility and to support what we know and learn about the topics we chose.

So today we're going to work on putting it all together. Here's your task for today:

- * Write 2 - 4 paragraphs about the topic you chose. This is basically going to be a rough draft research paper!
- * Think about how you can use the activities this week to help you think and write. Can you pull out the Works Cited page and use it to go back to those articles you already found? Can you pull out the "Journaling" handout you worked on earlier and use those quotes and ideas to help you put together a few paragraphs about your topic?
- * Don't worry about an intro or conclusion paragraph today. Right now, we're just focusing on the actual body paragraphs!

Each body paragraph you write today will contain the following:

- topic sentence
- example / experience
- a quote that adds to or supports your example / experience
- the citation that goes with it (author's last name and website— use the example you have on the "How to Embed a Quote" handout)
- follow-up commentary about the quote (again—use that "How to Embed a Quote" handout)
- a concluding sentence