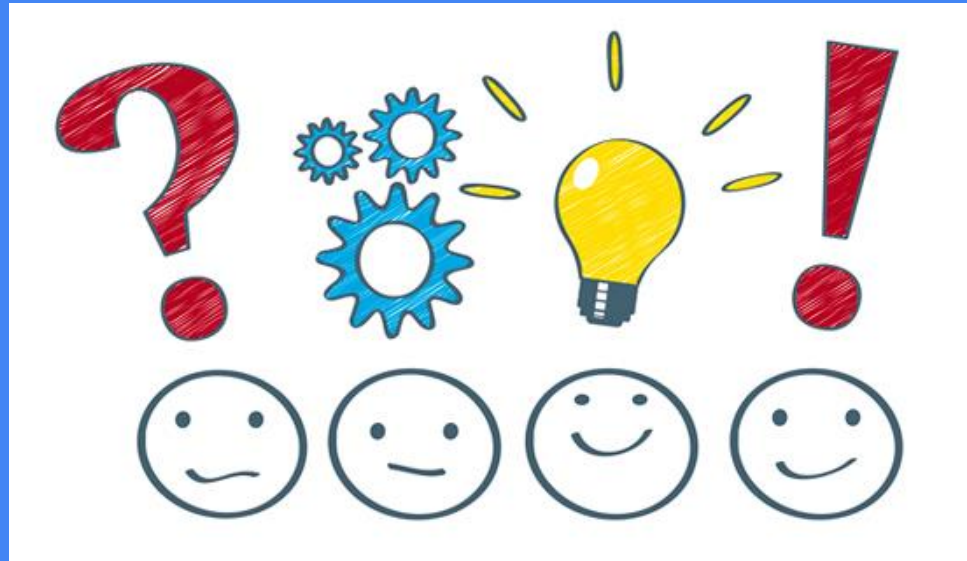


INQUIRY PROJECT

English 7 Final Research Unit



Learning Targets for Inquiry Project Unit: Research

I understand how critical readers use inquiry and research to deepen their understanding and develop an evidence-based perspective on a topic.

I can evaluate a website in order to determine its credibility and usefulness.

I can gather relevant information from multiple print and digital sources, using search terms effectively from print and digital sources, using search terms effectively; assess credibility and accuracy of each source, and quote or paraphrase the data and conclusions while avoiding plagiarism and following a standard format for citation.

Learning Targets for Inquiry Project Unit: Analysis

I can analyze the structure an author uses to organize the text, including how the major sections contribute to the whole and the development of the ideas.

I can trace and evaluate the argument and specific claims in a text, assessing whether the reasoning is sound and the evidence is relevant and sufficient to support the claims.

I can use technology, including the internet, to produce and publish writing and link to and cite sources.

Learning Targets for Inquiry Project Unit: Writing

I can present claims and findings emphasizing salient points in a focused, coherent manner with pertinent descriptions, facts, and examples.

I can cite several pieces of textual evidence to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text.

I can analyze the structure an author uses to organize the text, including how the major sections contribute to the whole and the development of the ideas.


Learning Targets for Inquiry Project Unit: Writing

I can produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate.

I can write an informative text to examine a topic, convey ideas, concepts and information through the selection, organization and analysis of relevant content.

I can conduct a short research project to answer a questions, draw on several sources and generate additional related, focused questions for further research and investigation.

What does
inquiry mean?



Inquiry

Our Final Project

- ★ You will develop an inquiry question that you will answer through extensive research
 - Generate a question about something you are genuinely interested in
- ★ You will research and find at least THREE credible sources that answer your research question (1 book, 1 online database, 1 source of your choice).
- ★ You will write a formal research paper presenting your findings
- ★ You will share your findings with your peers

Our Inquiry Process

- ★ Let's discuss the steps that we will be taking in order to find answers to our questions

1. Initiating Inquiry

I determine what I want to know about a topic and develop inquiry questions that I will investigate.

2. Gathering Information

I find and take notes on sources that will help me answer my inquiry questions and define the scope of my investigation.

3. Deepening Understanding

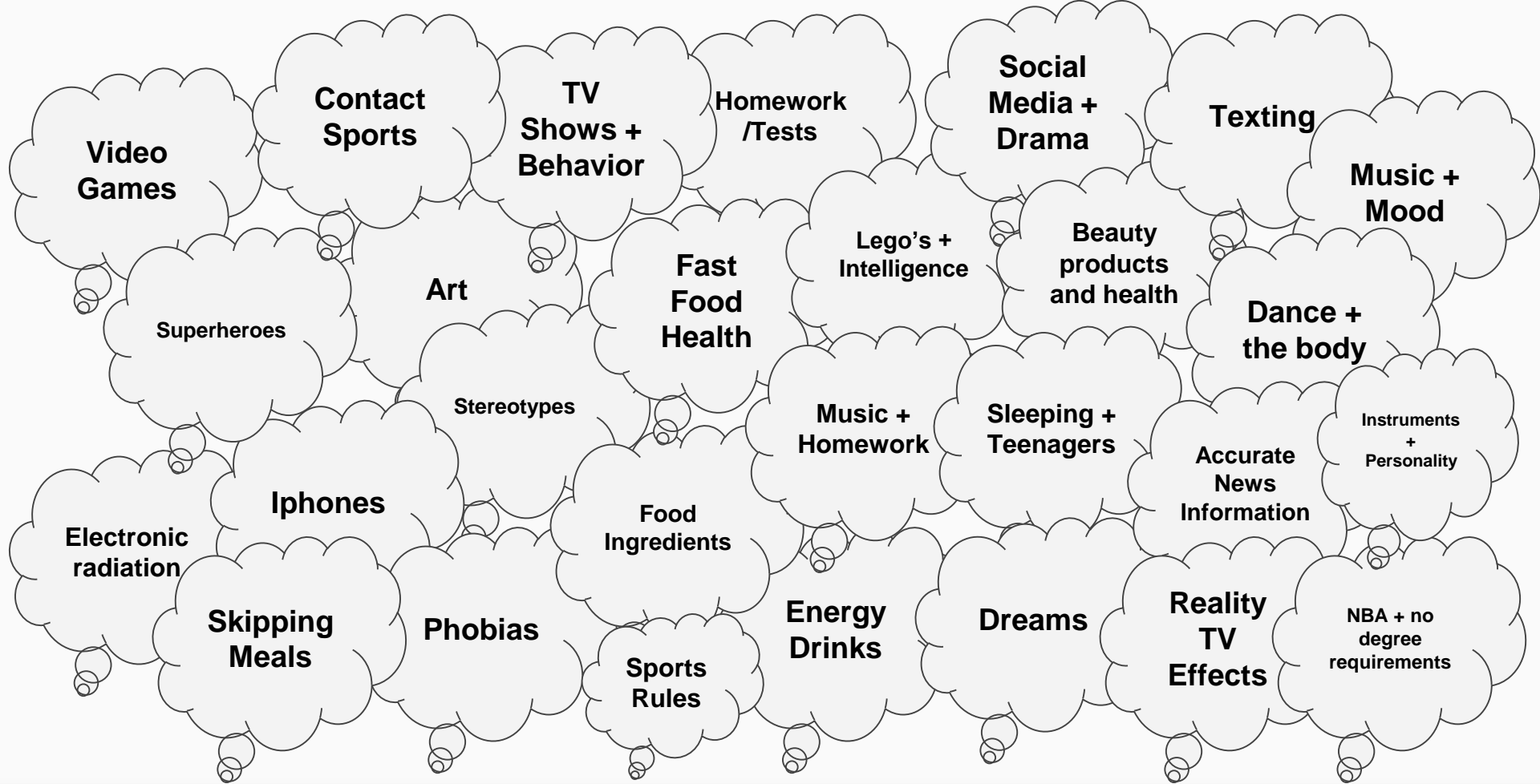
I analyze key sources to deepen my understanding and answer my inquiry questions.

4. Finalizing Inquiry

I synthesize my information to determine what I have learned and what more I need to know about my area of investigation. I gather and analyze more information to complete my inquiry.

5. Developing and Communicating an Evidence-Based Perspective

I review and synthesize my research to develop and communicate an evidence-based perspective on my area of investigation.



TOPIC IDEAS

Initiating Inquiry

- 1) Topics that interest you
- 2) Topics you want to know more about

TOPICS:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

Topic 1 : _____

Write a brief account about the topic describing what you know at this point about some of its aspects...

Potential Area of Investigation #1

In a few words, describe what you would like to know more about within this topic:

Explain why you are interested in this area of the topic:

Express your potential area of investigation as a question or problem:

Topic 2: _____

Write a brief account about the topic describing what you know at this point about some of its aspects...

Potential Area of Investigation #2

In a few words, describe what you would like to know more about within this topic:

Explain why you are interested in this area of the topic:

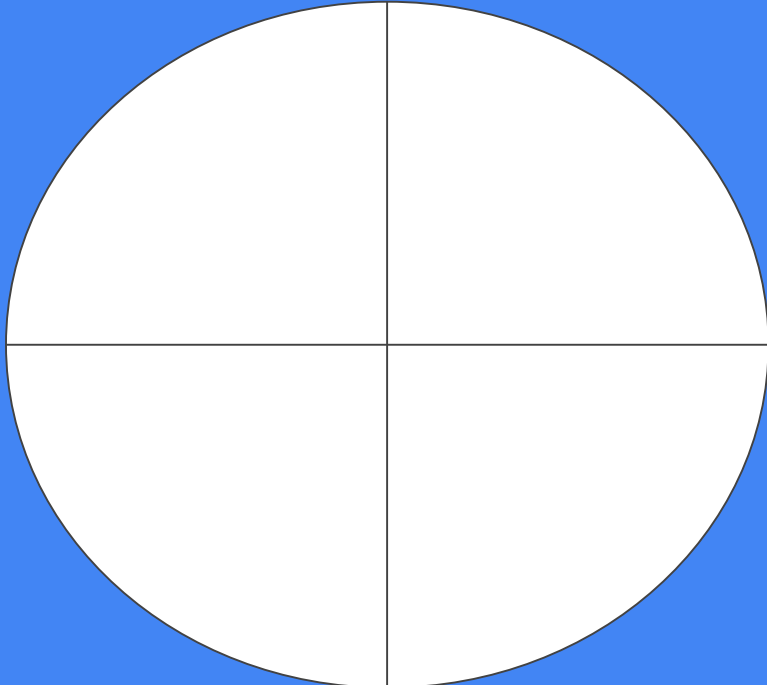
Express your potential area of investigation as a question or problem:

Check #1

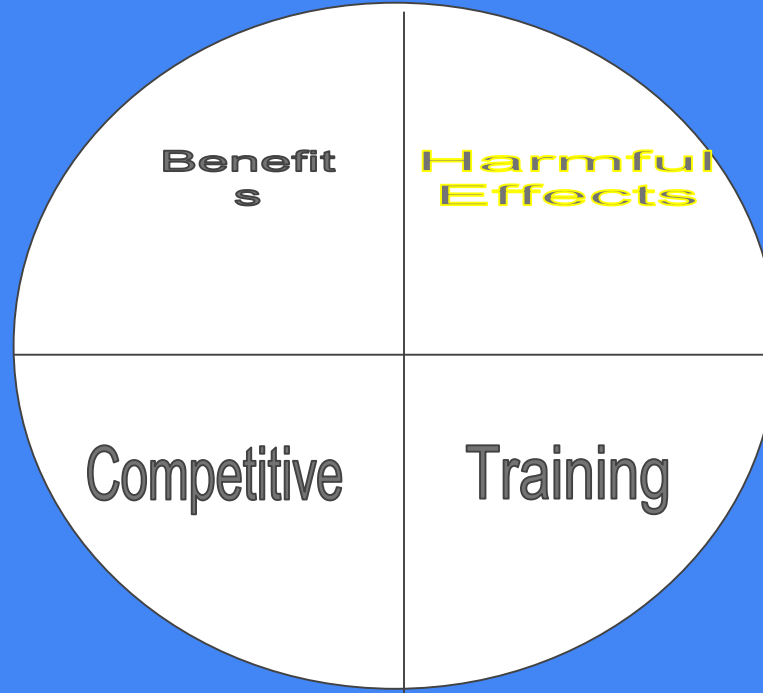
- Inquiry: What does the word mean?
- Our Inquiry Process
 - Initiating Inquiry
 - K-W Chart
- Brief Account of Topic #1
 - Potential Area of Investigation Topic #1
- Brief Account of Topic #2
 - Potential Area of Investigation Topic #2

Things I am doing well...	Things I need to work on...
Additional comments/feedback:	

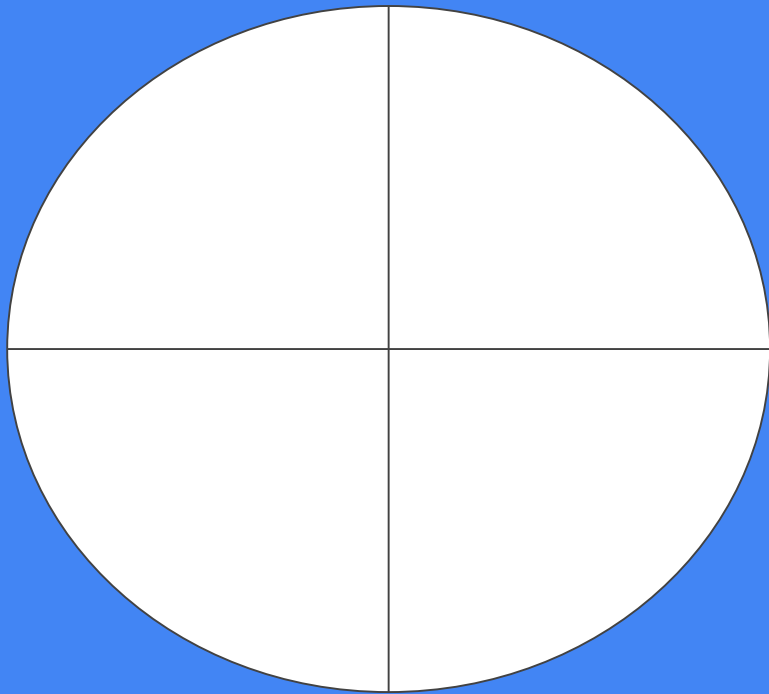
Defining Your Angle and Forming Inquiry Questions



Angle: the harmful effects of running on adults



Defining Your Angle and Forming Inquiry Questions



Posing Inquiry Questions

STEP 1: Generating Questions: Generating questions is most fun and effective with friends - the more minds the merrier. And starting with lots of questions helps you find the best ones. When brainstorming questions, consider many things about your area of investigation for instance.

****Generate as many questions as possible. There are no “silly” questions. We will eventually choose the best one, but for right now write down them all!!**

STEP 2: Selecting and Refining Questions: Once you have a huge list of possible questions, select and refine them by asking yourself a few things about them.

- ★ Are you genuinely interested in answering your question?
- ★ Can your question truly be answered through your research?
- ★ Is your question clear?
- ★ What sort of answers does your question require?
- ★ Do you already know what the answer is?

★ Effects of Running on Adults

1. What impact does running have on the human body?
2. Does running improve heart health?
3. What, if anything, harmful outcomes can running cause?
4. Is running the most efficient form of exercise?

Posing Inquiry Questions

Fill out index card with research questions that you are most interested in answering...

1.

2.

3.

4.

Steps to Finding Answers

Step 1	<i>Creating Search Terms</i>
Step 2	<i>Evaluating Sources (websites/articles)</i>
Step 3	<i>Collecting Sources</i>
Step 4	<i>Annotating Sources</i>
Step 5	<i>Analyzing/Synthesizing Articles into Information you can use to Write</i>

Using Critical Thinking to Find Trustworthy Websites

How do you know if a website is reliable?



Using Critical Thinking to Find Trustworthy Websites

How do you know if the information is true?

What to consider when researching sources...

Accuracy



- Are the author's facts consistent with other sources?
- Is there data, statistics, graphs, charts, and research to support the facts?
- Is the site free from errors and sloppy formatting?

Example

- + The information on this site is similar to what I read in my textbooks
- The information on this site is different from what I learned from my other sources. There are spelling errors on the page.

Reliability



- Is the author's ONLY purpose to inform you - no ads or selling?
- Are all points of view presented?
- Does it provide ONLY factual information, not opinions?
- Does the author have a biased point of view?

Example

- + This Legalization of Marijuana site presents the information as Scientific Facts, not opinions or bias, so it is not difficult to tell what is factual.
- This Anti-Smoking site states that their purpose is to encourage teens not to smoke, and I understand that the information is their opinion.

What to consider when researching sources...

Credibility



- Who is the author?
- What is their background experience?
- Is it appropriate for this topic?
- Are they a reliable expert?

Example

- + The author of this Civil War site is a UCLA professor of History
- The author of this Civil War site is a high school social studies class

Relevance



- Does this source contain the information you need?
- Does this information answer most of your research questions?

Example

- + This site on Global Warming presents many facts, stated in a clear, easy to understand format, which will help me answer my questions.
- This site on Global Warming refers to complex Scientific studies, which are difficult to understand, and focus only on 1 aspect of the issue.

What to consider when researching sources...

Date



- When was the information created/copyrighted?
- Is the the information current enough for your topic?
- When was the website last updated/edited?

Example

- + This site on File Sharing contains court ruling from last week.
- This site on File Sharing has not been edited since 2006.

Sources



- Does the website list their references and sources?
- Are there links to other credible sources?
- Do they seem credible?

Example

- + This site on Napoleonic Wars has an extensive bibliography with current links to other credible sources.
- This site on the Napoleonic Wars does not list any sources.

Domain	Meaning
.com	For businesses and commercial enterprises; most companies use this extension
.edu	For educational institutions and universities
.gov	Reserved for United States government agencies
.info	For information sites
.mil	For the United State military
.net	For networks; usually reserved for organizations such as Internet service providers
.org	For non-commercial organizations

COMMONLY USED DOMAINS

Search Sites & Search Terms

- Don't use words you don't need
- Use the AROUND () Operator
- Use a hyphen in front of any terms you don't want to show up (-)
- Add a tilde to search term related



Evaluating Videos

Questions to ask when evaluating a video...

What is the purpose of this video?

Who owns this video?

Do they have any bias?

When was this video published?

Who should watch this video? Who is their audience?

Does this video help/hurt your claim?

How could his video be utilized for your inquiry?

Checklist for Evaluating a Website & Articles

Website Title: Website address: Overall Rating: <input type="checkbox"/> Excellent: This is my best source <input type="checkbox"/> Good: I can use this as a source <input type="checkbox"/> Fair: I would not use this a source, unless I had no other choice <input type="checkbox"/> Poor: I would never use this as a source	Article Title:
Credibility	
<input type="checkbox"/> The author of the article/website is included. <input type="checkbox"/> The author's background experience is appropriate. <input type="checkbox"/> The publisher/Sponsor of the site is identified. <input type="checkbox"/> The website/article contains contact information	Author: Author's background: Publisher/Sponsor:
Accuracy	
<input type="checkbox"/> The information is accurate and consistent with other sources. <input type="checkbox"/> There is data, research or evidence to support facts (statistics, charts, graphs, interviews, maps, testimonials)	Date of Website/ Article: <input type="checkbox"/> The date created/Last edited is provided <input type="checkbox"/> The information is current enough for my topic
Reliability	
<input type="checkbox"/> The purpose of the site/article is to INFORM (no ads or opinion)	<input type="checkbox"/> The article/website lists references and sources <input type="checkbox"/> Working links to other credible sources are included
Relevance	
<input type="checkbox"/> The article contains information I need. <input type="checkbox"/> The article will answer my research questions. <input type="checkbox"/> The article contained key words and phrases for my inquiry.	

Check #2

- Pizza Pie Research
- Posing Inquiry Questions
 - Index Card
- Brainstorm Search Terms
- Checklist for Evaluating Website/Article
- Checklist for Evaluating Website/Article
- Checklist for Evaluating Website/Article
- Videos

Things I am doing well...	Things I need to work on...
<p>Additional comments/feedback:</p>	

SYNTHESIZING INQUIRY

Inquiry Question:

Source Used:

Type of Source:

Searching for Details: I read the sources closely and annotate (mark words or phrases) to help answer my question.

Selecting Details	Detail 1 (page:)	Detail 2 (page:)	Detail 3 (page:)
<i>I select words or phrases for my research that I think are the most important for answering my questions. I write the page next to each detail.</i>			
Analyzing and Connecting Details			
<i>I re-read parts of the text and think about the meaning of the details and what they tell me about my question. Then I compare the details and explain the connection I see among them.</i>			
Making a Claim	My claim that answers my question:		
<i>I state a conclusion I have come to and can support with evidence from the texts after reading them closely.</i>			

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Check #3

- Annotation of Article #1
 - Note Catcher #1
- Annotation of Article #2
 - Note Catcher #2
- Annotation of Article #3
 - Note Catcher #3

Things I am doing well...	Things I need to work on...
<p>Additional comments/feedback:</p>	

Check #4

- Synthesizing your Ideas
- Introduction
- Body Paragraph 1
- Body Paragraph 2
- Body Paragraph 3
- Conclusion
- Works Cited

Things I am doing well...	Things I need to work on...
Additional comments/feedback:	