

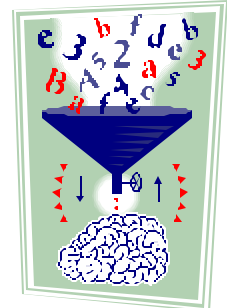
Selecting a Topic @ Your Library

"Help! I don't know what to write/speak about!"

Finding ideas for research topics:

Browse current magazines, newspapers, or current events websites

- Atlantic Monthly (in print & www.theatlantic.com)
- Time (in print & www.time.com)
- Newsweek (in print & www.newsweek.com)
- U.S. News (in print & www.usnews.com)
- New York Times (in print & www.nytimes.com)
- CNN (www.cnn.com)
- CQ Researcher (REF H35 .E35)
- Poynter.org Links to the News (<http://poynter.org/dj/shedden>)
- Public Agenda Online (<http://www.publicagenda.org>)



I have a general idea about what I'm interested in, but I need to make it manageable

Browse current magazines that focus on your topic

- Search the PAC for the subject (e.g., education)
- Click "Limit This Search"
- Under Material Type, select Magazine/News
- Find paper copies of magazines in the back of the library's upper floor

Public Agenda Online (<http://www.publicagenda.org>)

Encyclopedias

Subject listings in the PAC (the library catalog) or online databases such as Expanded Academic or SIRS

Narrowing a Topic @ Your Library

General topic: _____

What do you know about your topic? What don't you know?

What interests you?

What kind of information do you need? Brief summary? Detailed explanation? Current?
Historical? Statistics?

General Topic	
Time	
Geography	
Person or group	
Event or Aspect	

Refined Topic: _____
