



**Student Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Class:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Due Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

### Introduction and Objectives

Welcome to this homework sheet on research skills! In this activity, you will learn how to conduct effective research, evaluate sources, and apply critical thinking skills.

The objectives of this homework sheet are:

- Understand the importance of research skills
- Learn how to formulate effective research questions
- Develop critical thinking skills to evaluate sources
- Apply research skills to real-world scenarios

## What is Research?

Research is the systematic investigation into and study of materials and sources in order to establish facts and reach new conclusions.

Research is essential in many aspects of life, including academics, careers, and personal development.

Write a short paragraph on why research is important to you.

## Formulating Research Questions

A research question is a specific, focused inquiry that guides the research process.

The characteristics of a good research question are:

- Specific
- Focused
- Answerable
- Relevant

Write three potential research questions on a topic of your choice. Evaluate each question using the characteristics above.

## Evaluating Sources

Source evaluation is the process of assessing the credibility, reliability, and relevance of sources.

The criteria for evaluating sources are:

- Author credentials
- Publication date
- Purpose
- Bias

Evaluate the following sources using the criteria above:

- A news article from a reputable newspaper
- A social media post
- A scholarly article from an academic journal

## Search Techniques

Search engines are software systems designed to search for information on the World Wide Web.

Tips for effective searching are:

- Use keywords
- Use quotes
- Use site operators

Conduct a search on a topic of your choice using a search engine. Record your search terms and results.

## Critical Thinking

Critical thinking is the ability to analyze information, identify biases, and draw logical conclusions.

Critical thinking is essential in research to evaluate sources and draw accurate conclusions.

Read a short article and evaluate the author's argument using critical thinking skills.

## Research Project

A research project is an in-depth investigation into a topic or issue.

The steps in a research project are:

- Formulate a research question
- Conduct research
- Evaluate sources
- Analyze findings
- Present results

Choose a topic and formulate a research question. Conduct research and evaluate sources using the skills learned in this homework sheet.

## Citation and Referencing

Citation is the process of acknowledging the sources used in research.

Citation is essential to avoid plagiarism and give credit to original authors.

Learn how to cite sources using a recognized citation style (e.g. MLA, APA, Chicago).

A large, empty rectangular box with a thin gray border, intended for learning how to cite sources using a recognized citation style.



## Reflection and Feedback

Reflect on what you have learned in this homework sheet. What challenges did you face? What did you enjoy?

Provide feedback on the homework sheet. What did you find helpful? What would you like to see improved?

## Conclusion and Next Steps

Congratulations on completing this homework sheet on research skills! You have learned essential skills to conduct effective research and evaluate sources.

Apply the skills learned in this homework sheet to future research projects. Continue to develop your critical thinking skills and stay curious about the world around you.