



Worksheet One: Topic Definition Statement

- ✓ What is your general topic?

- ✓ What disciplines or academic fields may be interested in this topic?

- ✓ Brainstorm some approaches you might take with this topic and write down at least 3 of them. (Your “approach” is the perspective you wish to take on your topic, driven by your interest or available information. For example, are you interested in legal aspects, social, impacts on gender or race, physical or psychological?)

- ✓ Write down the titles of all sources you use to gather preliminary or background information on your topic. Give a brief summary of what each contributes to your project:

TITLES

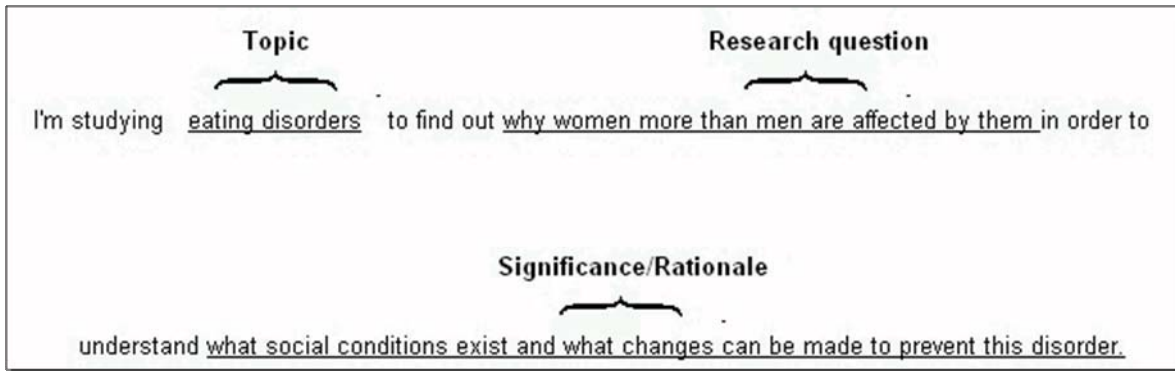
SUMMARY

- ✓ Write a topic definition statement below (no more than 5 sentences, if possible).

A topic definition statement should do the following	
Provide background for the issues	Much collegiate sportswear is produced in sweatshops in third world countries. Laborers earn pennies a day under horrible working conditions. Yet consumers pay exorbitant prices for these goods.
Summarize the purpose of your project and how you will accomplish it	This paper will examine the degree to which consumers are able to influence corporations to do business in a socially responsible manner. Therefore, I will identify instances of abuses in the collegiate sportswear industry and demonstrate how consumers can make an impact upon corporations.
Include a "working title"	"Ethical Consumerism: Can It Make a Difference?"
Indicate questions to be answered	<p>Key question: "What impact can ethical consumerism have on corporations and the environment?"</p> <p>Sub-questions: "What statistical results have been compiled by those who support ethical consumerism?" "Has Nike improved working conditions in their overseas manufacturing plants since their negative publicity?"</p>

Topic definition statement:

- ✓ As an option to the topic definition statement, write a preliminary research question here. This question may evolve and change over time. The box below suggests a possible model for a research question:



Preliminary research question:

- ✓ Now that you have a major question upon which to focus your research, write at least 3 but no more than 5 related or sub-questions that will need answering (e.g. statistical data or factual information):

Creating Research Vocabulary

- ✓ What are the key terms or concepts in your research question or topic statement? (There should be *at least 2*)

- ✓ Write *at least 3* terms related to your first key concept, following the guidelines for broader, related, and narrower.
 - BROADER:

 - RELATED:

 - NARROWER:

- ✓ Write *at least 3* terms related to your second key concept, following the guidelines for broader, related, and narrower.
 - BROADER:

 - RELATED:

 - NARROWER:

- ✓ Write *at least 3* terms related to your third key concept, following the guidelines for broader, related, and narrower.
 - BROADER:

 - RELATED:

 - NARROWER: