I-Search Paper

For your fourth quarter major assignment, you are to compose a research paper. In an I-Search paper, you simply do not just research an assigned topic, but you are allowed to choose one based on your own interests. The idea is that not only do you learn about the topic of your choice, but you also describe the research process that brought you to your final product. To write an I-Search paper, you pick a subject to which you have a personal connection, and write about it from a personal point of view.

Your paper will consist of three major parts:

1. **The story of your search** - This section tells readers what you knew about your subject before you began your research, what you wanted to know, and the research steps you went through to find out what you wanted to know—including both the steps that led to useful information and the steps that turned out to be dead ends.

2. **What you learned** - In this section, you give readers the results of your search—both the answers you found and the answers you did not find.

3. **Your reflections on the search** - You use this final section to tell readers what the experience has taught you about conducting and documenting a search.

Important Dates:

- Date Assigned: **Wednesday, April 27th**
- Research Journal: **To be checked every Friday until due date!**
- Topic Options shared (Google Form): **Tuesday, May 3rd**
- Research Question shared (Google Form): **Monday, May 9th**
- Topic Brainstorming and Proposal: **Monday, May 16th**
- Bibliography: **Wednesday, May 18th**
- Completed Research Journal and Final Paper: **Thursday, May 26th**
<table>
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<tr>
<th>I-Search Paper (100 pts.)</th>
<th>9-10 Excellent</th>
<th>7-8 Good</th>
<th>5-6 Fair</th>
<th>0-4 Poor</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Part 1 – What I Already Know, and What I Want to Know</strong></td>
<td>Paper eloquently describes what student already knew about the topic, why they were interested in it, and what questions they began with. Student clearly addresses topic of paper.</td>
<td>Paper describes what student already knew about the topic, why they were interested in it, and what questions they began with. Student addresses topic of paper.</td>
<td>Paper briefly describes what student already knew about the topic, why they were interested in it, or what questions they began with. Student may not address topic of paper.</td>
<td>Paper does not clearly describe what student already knew about the topic, why they were interested in it, and what questions they began with. Student does not address topic of paper.</td>
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<td><strong>Part 2 - My Search Process</strong></td>
<td>Student clearly and eloquently discusses their search journey and the steps they took to find their information. Displays growth in knowledge regarding research methods.</td>
<td>Student discusses their search journey and the steps they took to find their information. Student mentions research methods.</td>
<td>Student briefly discusses their search journey and the steps they took to find their information. Student may not mention research methods.</td>
<td>Student does not clearly discuss their search journey or the steps they took to find their information.</td>
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<td><strong>Part 3 - What I Learned / Search Results</strong></td>
<td>Student utilizes at least 6 resources to discuss search results.</td>
<td>Student utilizes 3-5 resources to discuss search results.</td>
<td>Student utilizes 1-2 resources to discuss search results.</td>
<td>Student utilizes no resources to discuss search results.</td>
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<td>Student clearly and eloquently discusses material learned in their own words and makes connections to questions posed.</td>
<td>Student discusses material learned in their own words and may make connections to questions posed.</td>
<td>Student briefly discusses material learned in their own words and may or may not make connections to questions posed.</td>
<td>Student does not discuss material learned in their own words, nor does not make connections to questions posed.</td>
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<td><strong>Part 4 - What This Means to Me / My Growth</strong></td>
<td>Student clearly reflects on both the search process and the results of their findings. Student includes what they would like to know in the future.</td>
<td>Student reflects on either the search process or the results of their findings. Student includes what they would like to know in the future.</td>
<td>Student reflects on either the search process or the results of their findings. Student may or may not include what they would like to know in the future.</td>
<td>Student does not reflect on the search process or the results of their findings. Student does not include what they would like to know in the future.</td>
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<td><strong>Organization</strong></td>
<td>Student presents information in logical, interesting sequence.</td>
<td>Student presents information in logical sequence.</td>
<td>Reader has difficulty following paper.</td>
<td>Reader cannot understand paper because there is no sequence of information.</td>
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<td><strong>Bibliography</strong></td>
<td>Is Complete.</td>
<td>Is included but not well organized.</td>
<td>Is missing some components.</td>
<td>Is almost or completely missing.</td>
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<td><strong>In-Text Citations</strong></td>
<td>Includes proper in-text citations throughout using MLA format.</td>
<td>Includes in-text citations, but has some errors.</td>
<td>Includes in-text citations, but has many errors.</td>
<td>Does not include in-text citations.</td>
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<td><strong>Effort/ Listens and Follows Directions</strong></td>
<td>Exceeds the requirements of the assignment and have put care and effort into the process. Student has shared their Google doc on time using the correct title format. Has utilized given class time properly.</td>
<td>Fulfills all of the requirements of the assignment. Shares doc. Utilizes most class time effectively.</td>
<td>Fulfills some of the requirements of the assignment. Shares doc, but has to be asked. Does not use time wisely.</td>
<td>Fulfills little of the requirements of the assignment. Does not share at all, wastes given class time.</td>
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<td><strong>Grammar, Mechanics, Spelling and Sentence Structure</strong></td>
<td>Presentation is highly polished; minor grammar or spelling errors.</td>
<td>Presentation is polished; few grammar or spelling errors.</td>
<td>Presentation is adequate; multiple grammar or spelling errors.</td>
<td>Inadequate presentation; numerous spelling or grammar errors, making it difficult for the reader.</td>
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Comments:
The I-Search Paper: Making a Proposal

Finding a Topic:
- Your I-Search Paper should related to current issues around the world
- You are to go to NewsELA and search for an article that interests you. (You will need to submit two options of your topic by **Tuesday May 3rd via a Google form that will be emailed to you**).
  - Miss Cary has the digression to decline your suggestion depending on appropriateness or validity.
- This article should jumpstart your research!
  - The goal of this paper is to find out more about your topic. For example, if you select the article about the whales in Sea World, your research topic may involve any of the following: whales in captivity, animals rights in amusement parks and zoos, orca whales in the wild, etc.
    - You should not limit yourself to simply researching whales in one location.

Your I-Search proposal needs to include the following:

- **I.** A clear proposal declaration, stating the topic you intend to research. Include your **research question** that will guide you.
  - ✓ This should be **no more than two or three sentences**.

- **II.** A clear statement explaining why you have chosen this topic.
  - ✓ This should be long enough to give the reader a good explanation as to why you want to research the topic, what drove you to select your area of research, why it appeals to you, and what you would like to learn about your topic.
  - ✓ A short paragraph (4-5 **sentences**) should be sufficient.

- **III.** The process you intend to go through to obtain needed information, and what you will do with the information once you have gotten it. This may include:
  - ✓ Describing what you have done thus far (how you selected your topic and your sources), as well as what you are going to do in the weeks ahead.
    - You should include a “time line” of how you are going to use your time wisely in order to meet the required deadlines
    - How you will discipline yourself to do the work (time management/scheduling), and
    - How you will deal with any possible distractions or setbacks which might arise.
- **IV.** You must attach the initial article that inspired your research

**Research Question Due (via Google Form shared with you):**
Monday, May 9th

**Topic Proposal Due: Monday, May 16th**
(MUST BE TYPED & PRINTED)
Search Journal

Journaling is a key step in the I-Search writing process. You need to keep a daily record of your research so that you will have this information when you write the story of your search. You should include the date, a list of that day’s research results and findings (include both successes and setbacks), and a short daily reflection on your progress. I will be randomly checking to make sure you are doing both your daily research and your journals!

Before you begin, recap what you have done so far:

Research Question:

What I already know about this topic:

What I would like to know about this topic:

Brief description of research plan:
Search Journal

Remember to be specific and write in complete sentences!

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<th>Thoughts on my progress</th>
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I-Search Research

When conducting research, it is important to find as much information possible from a variety of resources. For this paper, you will need to utilize both primary (first-hand) and secondary (second-hand) sources.

- Examples:
  - Primary – legal documents, letters, diaries, eyewitness accounts, surveys
  - Secondary – text books, modern interpretations of primary material written after the fact

Once you have begun your research, you will need to determine what sources to trust. When looking at websites and other sources, you can ask yourself the following to guide you:

1. **Is the information up-to-date?**
   - Information is generated so quickly now that it is easy to find current material. If information on your topic is constantly changing, be sure that you are as up-to-date as possible. For example, a report on asthma medications from 1975 would not reflect current research and might be incorrect according to today’s medical standards.

2. **Does the information seem factual?**
   - Check the information against your own knowledge and against other sources. If you find an inconsistency between two sources, check a third source to determine which information is accurate.

3. **Does the source seem objective and logical?**
   - Some sources may be biased, or slanted, toward one point of view. Others may use poor logic. You would not, for example, expect an objective assessment of one political party’s platform from the leader of the opposing political party.

REMINDER: Wikipedia is NOT a reliable source!!

***You will need to find **at least FIVE sources** for your research paper.***
I-Search Research – Bibliography Notes
30 points

Keeping track of all of your sources may be a difficult task. Your task is to document the source and some information about it to help you when it comes time to write your essay.

Steps for creating a bibliography with notes using NoodleTools:
Create an account:
1. Go to Noodletools.com and select “Current Users: Sign In” in the top right corner.
2. Choose to create a personal ID.
3. Select the first option (An account linked to a school/library subscription or trial).
   - School/Library Username: jpa2
   - School/Library Password: panthers
4. Create a personal ID and password that you will remember! It would be helpful to me if your username contains your last name!

Writing your bibliography:
1. On your home page, choose “Create a New Project”
2. You will then select MLA citation style, and label the description “I-Search”
3. You will then be sent to your Dashboard. On the top tool bar, select “Bibliography.”
4. The next step depends on what type of citation you would like to make. I assume that most of your sources will be websites, so here are the steps to create a citation for a website.
   On the dropdown menu, select a Website and click “Create Citation”
   - Click “Continue” on next page
5. Fill in as much information as possible on the page based on what can be found on your web page.
   - Make sure the bottom box is checked!! It will include your source in your works cited!
   - Scroll all the way to the bottom and choose Submit.

To make a note on your source:
1. In your “Bibliography” page, locate your citation, and select “New” under the Notecard column.
2. Title your note with a helpful reminder of the source. You may choose to label it with the title of the webpage, or what information the article contains
   - Notes may be any of the following:
     ✓ A direct quotation from the source
     ⇒ Fill in the box that reads “Direct Quotation”
     ✓ A summary including the main idea and most important supporting details
     ✓ A paraphrase of the material, including most of what the author said, and not just the main ideas. Also written in your own words.
     ⇒ Fill in the box that reads “Paraphrase or Summary”
3. SAVE YOUR NOTE!!!
To share your Notecards:
1. Go to “Notecards” tab on your Noodletools Toolbar.
2. All of your notecards will be grouped in a small box on the left side of your screen. You may
drag your notecards to the middle of your screen, or select to “Move to.”
3. Once your cards are in the middle, you should CTRL+CLICK all of your cards.
4. Once your cards are highlighted, select “Add to Pile” on the Notecard Tabletop.
5. Choose to Create a New Pile.
   - Title it: I-Search Paper
   - All of your Notecards will then be grouped together.
6. Select the tiny image of a printer.
7. Choose to “Export to Word.” Hit Submit
8. Choose “Export notecards from pile...” and choose your I-Search Pile. Hit Submit.
9. Keep all boxes checked under Notecard items to print. Hit Submit.
10. The document will then be downloaded to your computer. Open the document.
11. Save your bibliography with notes!!!

Remember: an entire article or website may not pertain to your essay. That is okay!
Take notes about what is relevant to your paper only!

***You will need to find at least FIVE sources for your research paper.***

Bibliography due Wednesday, May 18th!
Asthma

Prevention

Source:

Paraphrase:
There are multiple things you can do to help prevent your asthma symptoms. One of them is to know what triggers your worst symptoms. You can document whenever you have a flare up to remind yourself of a particular trigger. You should also make sure you always take your medication as it is prescribed to you.

History:
Created: 05/06/15 09:35 AM

Defined Asthma

Source:

Quote:
"When you breathe, air passes through your nose and down your throat into your lungs. Inside your lungs are branching tubes called airways. With asthma, the airways are often swollen and red (or inflamed). This makes them extra sensitive to things that you are exposed to in the environment every day or asthma “triggers”. A trigger could be a cold, the weather, or things in the environment, such as dust, chemicals, smoke and pet dander.”

History:
Created: 05/06/15 09:30 AM
I-Search Paper Framework
100 points

Part 1: My Questions--What I Already Know, and What I Want to Know
✓ In this section, you will describe what you already knew about the topic, why you were interested in it, and what questions you began with. Some questions to guide your work in this section include the following:
  o Why have I chosen this topic?
  o What do I already know about this topic?
  o What do I wonder about? What questions do I have? On what particular question do I want to focus?
  o What do I want to “discover” in order to answer my major question?
✓ In this section, you will probably not cite any research, as it really is just the introduction to your actual work. However, you might refer to particular sources that “hooked” you in terms of interest or from which you have gained what knowledge you already have. This section should be at least several paragraphs long and provide the reader with a clear sense of why you’re researching your topic, how it relates to creating your product, what you already know, and what you hope to find out.
✓ 2+ paragraphs

Part 2: My Search Process
✓ In this section, you will describe your actual research “journey.” You will need to describe the sequence of steps that you go through as you research your topic. You might talk about what sources you begin with, how these help or not, new sources as you find them, what new questions crop up as you learn more, and what frustrations you encounter along the way. Also explain what information was useful for you to help your research, and how you determined that. This is also the section where you talk about the help and assistance that you get from others, i.e. primary sources: mentors and other people you interview. You should explain your research methods and actually talk about specific sites and sources. Be sure to include your reflections in this section.
  o Explain your research methods and include specific sites
    ▪ Describe the usefulness of the information you found
  o Express your successes, failures, and feelings as you researched
    ▪ Examples:
      • When I went to the library, I looked at...
      • On the Internet, I found three articles that...
      • I interviewed someone who works in this profession and...
      • I soon found that...
  o Tell about the primary sources and/or people you interviewed

✓ Your research log will be a valuable resource for this section, so keep detailed notes.
✓ 2+ paragraphs
Part 3: What I Have Learned/Search Results
✓ This section finally allows you to focus on what you have learned as a result of completing your product.
  o What findings or conclusions have you arrived at?
  o What sources have you used to come to these conclusions?
✓ You need to be sure to cite your sources here! Be careful to connect what you have learned to the question(s) you posed in the first section of your paper. You might use comparison/contrast, pro/con, cause/effect, or sequencing as formats to demonstrate your analysis.
  o Examples:
    ▪ After doing the product, I discovered that...
    ▪ I was correct in thinking that...
    ▪ I was confused or mistaken about...
✓ Be certain to use MLA documentation in this section and cite your sources correctly. Direct quotes must ALWAYS be in quotation marks. Remember you must reference at least FIVE sources.
✓ 3+ paragraphs

Part 4: What This Means to Me/My Growth
✓ This section provides the opportunity for you to reflect on how you have developed during the process. You should personalize your new learning and explain how it impacts your thinking on the topic. Draw conclusions from what you have discovered. Explain what else you would like to know.
✓ You should also discuss what you know about searching for information that you didn’t know before. Explain what skills you’ve developed as a researcher and writer, as well what you discovered about the thinking process in doing research.
✓ The following statements may help guide your thinking:
  o What I now know that I didn’t know before includes...
  o The findings that mean the most to me are...
  o What I’ve learned will affect me and my senior project by...
  o As a result of this research, I’ve decided to...
✓ 2+ paragraphs

Part 5: References
✓ You will need to cite your sources in two ways. First, you will need to properly cite sources throughout your paper. Also, it is essential that you include a properly formatted (MLA Style) Works Cited Page at the end of your paper. You will need to carefully document ALL sources you use throughout your I-Search process in order to complete this task correctly. There are several online sources that may help you, one of which is the Write Source site, http://www.thewritesource.com/mla.htm. Check GradeConnect Links for several other links that will assist you.
✓ The easiest thing to do is select your bibliography from Noodletools!! Noodletools also shows you how to create in-text citations using your sources!

MUST BE TYPED IN MLA FORMAT, TIMES NEW ROMAN 12 POINT FONT, PRINTED AND SHARED AS A GOOGLE DOC
(Last name Per _____ iSearch)

Thursday MAY 26th
Pawlie Panther

Miss Cary

ELA

5 May 2015

I-Search Proposal

When Disney CEO Bob Iger announced his plans to step down from his position had been pushed back from mid-2016 to 2018, fans were thrilled. But that didn't keep one question from lingering in their mind: who will be Iger's successor when that day does come? Tom Staggs is the most likely candidate as of now, and I will be researching how Staggs could fill the job and compare to past and present CEOs.

I chose this topic because I've had an interest in all things Disney since I was about 12. I've closely followed any updates or changes happening in Walt Disney World because my family went every other year while in grade school. Ever since I've expressed this fascination with Disney, my mom let me help plan our trips to Disneyland and Disney World. While I followed what was happening in the parks or the studios, I never really thought about how the company and parks were managed. With an interest in all things Disney, I have thought of pursuing a career for the Walt Disney Company. Learning about the management gives me new insight as to how the company is run.

There have been many different articles written about Staggs since he has been rumored to be the next CEO. I intend to use these to research Staggs, and information about past CEOs to compare him to them. For example, Bob Iger, the current CEO, was just named one of Time’s 100 Most Influential People, so I am planning to use that as a source. Since I'm not sure how long it will take me to find sources, I am going to search however long I need. I would normally
try to get it all done on the weekends, but my weekends are going to be pretty busy. I am hoping to find my sources and gather the information before the bibliography is due.

If I have all of the information I need by that time, I'll have two weeks to organize the information into an outline and, eventually, a final paper. Between now and then, I'm supposed to help out with my former grade school's musical. This may set me back on time I can spend working on the paper on weekdays. So, I'll have to simply take more time out of my weekend to work on it. If I can't seem to keep up with the work, I'll have to make up for it on my days off. In general, I'm fairly good at managing my time and I genuinely enjoy the topic I'm writing about, so I'm hoping the research and writing processes will go smoothly.