

Review of Steps for Writing a Research Paper CGI Economic History

1. Develop a thesis statement. Your thesis should include a claim or a position and evidence supporting your claim or position.
2. Find eight (8) sources discussing your topic; take notes as you read your sources. Recall taking notes on note cards for your short story research paper in Sophomore English. If you found that useful, use the same format. If not, consider taking notes either on your computer or in a notebook.

Your assignment is to consult at least six (6) print sources AP, three (3) print sources Honors. Those may include sources you find online, but are available in print format.

3. Create an outline organizing your thoughts. Your outline could be either sentence or topic structure. Again, recall that the more effort you put into your outline, the easier it will be to write your paper.
4. Begin writing your paper. Every paragraph should have a topic sentence (an assertion), evidence, and analysis. Think of yourself as a lawyer defending your client in court. What evidence best supports your claim? How can you convince the jury that your position is the right way to analyze the facts? Your analysis helps the jury/reader connect all the ideas to support your claim/thesis.
5. Make sure your quotes are incorporated properly, using parenthetical citation. The history of the United States is defined by its wars especially the Revolution War which “.....” (Smith 63). OR According to Smith, the history of the U.S. is defined by its wars especially the Revolutionary War which “....” (63).
6. Create a Work Cited Page. We recommend using citationmachine.net. Be very careful with the information that you input. Check spellings, capitalization, and titles.
7. PROOFREAD!!!

Additional Considerations

- In the header you should put your last name and page number. This will appear on each page of your paper. Ex: Baney 1
- Your paper should have a heading on the left margin listing your name, your teacher's name, the course name, and the date. This information should be double-spaced.
- Your paper must have an original title including the topic it relates to. Titles are centered, not bolded, not underlined, not italicized.
- Your paper should be double-spaced with no additional spaces between the heading, the title, and the body text of the paper. There are no additional spaces between paragraphs.
- Titles of books, journals, magazines, newspapers, databases, etc. are *italicized*, not underlined.
- MLA no longer requires giving the complete address of any Web sources you cite. After the title of the source, include the date the source was last modified (or "n.d." for "no date") and then the publication marker "Web" and then the date you accessed the source for your research.
- Quotes that are four lines or longer when you type them into your paper get blocked. This means you begin the quote on its own line, omit quotation marks, indent one inch, and continue to double space.

Example:

A true man of the people and father to the poor, Carnegie gave away \$180 million after which he established the Carnegie Corporation to

Promote the advancement of knowledge among the people of the United States by aiding technical schools, institutions of higher learning, libraries, scientific research, hero funds, useful publications, and such other agencies and means as shall form from time to time. (Kent 410)

All in all, Carnegie donated 90 percent of his money.