Preliminary Topic Selection Sheet

**Part I** – Pre-research

1. What topic are you choosing to research after considering information – WHY?

2. What knowledge do you already have concerning this topic? List or explain what you already know.

3. Come up with three questions that would help you begin your further exploration of this topic.

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**Part II** – Preliminary research and beginning to keep track of sources

4. Before you commit to your topic and begin to formally take notes, explore the information available. Fill out the following table with 1) the source (enough information so that you could find it again – including 2) page # if from a book) and a 3) brief summary of helpful information provided by the source.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 1)**Source** (URL, Call #, Book Title, author, date - enough to find source again ) | 2) If book, pg.# | **3) Brief Summary** |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |

5. Is your topic researchable? Are you finding new and different information/examples/evidence from the different sources you went to? (\*\*\*Or just the same info repeated? – if it is repeated, BE CAREFUL\*\*\*)

Note: If you would like to change your topic, start at #1 again – don’t erase all your info, just add new notes to a different sheet, staple and re-turn in at any point in the process.

Thesis Refinement Sheet (TRS)

**Part III** - The purpose of this sheet it to keep track of the development of your thesis. Remember you will be changing and improving your thesis at each stage.

#A. My topic \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and its impact on \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. (due: \_\_\_\_\_)

#B. Research Question - as detailed as possible (due: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_):

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| \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |

#C. Preliminary Thesis: (due: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_)

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Strong\_\_\_\_\_ Almost There\_\_\_\_\_ Needs Work \_\_\_\_\_\_ Really Needs Work \_\_\_\_\_\_

#D. Refined Research Question-may be the same as Box B if no changes needed: (due: \_\_\_\_\_)

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| \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |

Strong\_\_\_\_\_ Almost There\_\_\_\_\_ Needs Work \_\_\_\_\_\_ Really Needs Work \_\_\_\_\_\_

#E. Refined Thesis: (due: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_)

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| \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |

Strong\_\_\_\_\_ Almost There\_\_\_\_\_ Needs Work \_\_\_\_\_\_ Really Needs Work \_\_\_\_\_\_

#F. Further Refined Thesis: (due: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_)

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| \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |

Strong\_\_\_\_\_ Almost There\_\_\_\_\_ Needs Work \_\_\_\_\_\_ Really Needs Work \_\_\_\_\_\_