Library Search

Note to Teachers: Work with your school or local public librarian to modify this exercise to suit available resources. Students can be expected to locate and record sources in one class period.

1. Record your topic/problem/question. Record your preliminary topic. Then, list several key words that you might use when looking for a list of books or articles that might contain information you need.

   Topic/problem/question: Click here to enter text.

   Related key words: Click here to enter text.

2. Look in your school library for several sources that might help you become an expert on your topic/problem/question. Go to each of the following nine stations in the library. Look at each station for listings of sources that might help you learn about your topic. At each, record a standard bibliographic entry for one source you think might be helpful. When you are finished with this step, you will have listed nine different sources—one for each of the nine stations.

3. Attach your complete list, with the correct bibliographic formatting, to this page when you turn it in.

   a. Readers’ Guide to Periodical Literature (no longer available in many libraries) or other periodical listing.
   b. Your library’s catalog listing books and other materials.
   c. Online magazine or newspaper database (e.g. ProQuest, eLibrary).
   d. Online magazine or newspaper database (e.g. ProQuest, eLibrary).
   e. Internet source (perhaps one linked to the National History Day website).
   f. Encyclopedia (print/CD-ROM/online).
   g. The “Great” series of New York Times articles on microfiche or use New York Times Historical Backfile database accessible through your public library.
   h. American Journey series on CD-ROM.
   i. Source found within a reference work in the Reference section of your library but not a common encyclopedia.