

## AP RESEARCH Summer Assignments:

### 1) Summer Reading and Reflection

Directions: Complete the following reflections prior to the start of AP Research. These reflections are purposefully driven to help you make the jump from AP Seminar to AP Research. Complete the reflections electronically and print them for your PREP, a tool required by College Board that will help you stay organized in this yearlong process. Please include the question when providing your responses. Responses should be at minimum a paragraph per question and should exhibit your ability to provide supporting textual and experiential evidence as well as depthful discussion. *Approximate Time Needed: 4 Hours*

Text: Leedy, P.D., Ormrod, J.E. (2013). *Practical Research: Planning and Design*. (10th ed.). New York: Pearson. (I will post these excerpts on Google Classroom; email Ms. Hutcheson for access)

Title of Reading	Pages	Questions for Reflection
“What Research is Not”	1-2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What surprised you in this section? Why?</li> <li>• According to this section, how is AP Seminar different from AP Research?</li> </ul>
“What Research is”	2-7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What part of this section interests you? Why?</li> <li>• According to this section, how is AP Research an extension of AP Seminar?</li> </ul>
“Words Enhance Thinking”	12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How will words influence your ability to conduct research?</li> <li>• Out of the four sections, which section did you connect to most? Why?</li> </ul>
“The Human Mind”	17-22	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Which subsection -Critical Thinking, Deductive Logic, Inductive Reasoning, Scientific Method, Theory Building, and Collaboration with Other Minds- are you least familiar with?</li> <li>• Which subsection -Critical Thinking, Deductive Logic, Inductive Reasoning, Scientific Method, Theory Building, and Collaboration with Other Minds- is most critical for Research? Why?</li> </ul>

**Further Reading (Suggested):** Booth, W.C., Colomb, G.C., & Williams, J.M. (2008). *The Craft of Research*. (2nd ed.). Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

### 2) Summer Research Question Work

Similarly to AP Seminar, College Board wants you to present your AP Research academic paper with a leading question; however, in AP Research this question is called a Research Question (RQ). The following concepts are things to consider when attempting to build an AP Research RQ. Complete the chart requirements and write your initial RQ. Remember, the topic you decide to work with must hold your interest for the entire year. Sit and reflect about your true interests for this course prior to completing this chart.

Creating a Research Question: Complete the following reflection questions on your electronic reflection document. The following elements are critical when attempting to build your research question. If you are struggling to understand the four major concepts -focus, scope, value, and feasibility- do not forget to reference your textbook. After answering the questions in this chart, attempt to write your research question. You will need this RQ at the start of this year. *Approximate Time Needed: 4-6 Hours (the more thoroughly you complete this work, the better off you will be to start your research in September)*

Concept	Description	Reflection Questions to Answer (Required)	Additional Work (Suggested)
<b>Focus</b>  <b>Research Discipline and Topic</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discipline: Lens or section of focus               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• History</li> <li>• Humanities</li> <li>• Hard Sciences</li> <li>• Social Sciences</li> <li>• Mathematics</li> <li>• Arts research</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Topic: Specific interest within a discipline that creates the basics of your research question</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What discipline do you feel you are most successful in at school?</li> <li>• What discipline would you enjoy working in during your research?</li> <li>• What details can you add to your discipline to shape your topic interest?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gather 10 research articles in the discipline of your interest.</li> <li>• You can use these articles to help inform the structure and style of your academic paper. This will remove some of your confusion when you begin composing your academic paper.</li> </ul>
<b>Scope</b>  <b>Depth and Size of your Research Project</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Context: The specific setting of your research</li> <li>• Variables: The items/people/situations/issues/ concepts being studied and/or manipulated.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What specific things will you study? People? Animals? Things? Concepts? Theories?</li> <li>• How will you work with the people/animals/things/ concepts/theories that you will research?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Find 10 research articles that work with similar variables to your research interest.</li> <li>• You can use these articles to help inform your research method that you will construct in the course.</li> </ul>
<b>Value</b>  <b>Contribution to the Body of Knowledge</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The value of your research is determined by how your contribution enhances what is already known about the topic. You are expected to either add to the current conversation of a discipline or use multiple discipline conversations to create new knowledge.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Will your research change the way we currently see the topic?</li> <li>• How will your research benefit society or your discipline of study?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Find 10 current discussions about your topic. Look for contrasting views about the topic.</li> <li>• You will be able to use this content for your literature review or discussion of your topic. This will help you locate the need for your project.</li> </ul>
<b>Feasibility</b>  <b>Possibility of Research</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Time, money, and resources can play a major part in determining the ability to complete your research.</li> <li>• You will have around two months to complete your actual research project: December and January.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What will you physically and/or monetarily need to complete your research?</li> <li>• How long will your research take?</li> <li>• Do you have access to the things you need for research?</li> <li>• Who can help you with your research?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Make contact with an adult that is skilled in your topic. Talk with them and ask if they would be interested in supporting you during your research process.</li> <li>• College Board requires you to have an Expert Advisor. Building a professional relationship with someone invested in your discipline will strengthen your academic paper.</li> </ul>

**INITIAL RESEARCH QUESTION:**

**3) CONTACT: Ms. Hutcheson with any questions or concerns you may have. Email her by Aug. 15 with an update on your work and just to check in about your topic. Work will be collected the first week we are back in class.**

*(\*\* Adapted/Credits to Emily Lott, AP Research Central)*