

STEPS IN RESEARCH

1. Preliminary steps:

- Clarifying the purpose
- Formulating the topic
 - State your topic idea as a question
 - Identify the main concepts or keywords

2. Finding background information

- Critically analyzing information sources
 - Initial appraisal
 - Author
 - Date of publication
 - Edition or revision
 - Publisher
 - Title of the journal
 - Content of analysis
 - Intended audience
 - Objective reasoning
 - Coverage
 - Writing style
 - Evaluative review

3. Five steps to write topic for better research

- Think about your topic
- Define your main concepts
- Think synonyms
- Think of broader terms
- Think of narrower terms

4. Steps in research

- Planning
 - Formulation of the study objectives
 - General objective – what are the purpose of the study
 - Specific objective – what are the things you want o find in the study
 - Planning of methods
 - Study population
 - Selection and definition
 - Sampling
 - Sample size
 - Variables
 - Selection
 - Definition
 - Scales of measurement
 - Method of data collection
 - Method of recording and processing
- Preparing for data collection
 - Construction of research instrument
 - Pretesting the instrument
- Collection the data
- Processing the data
- Interpreting the data
- Writing a report

5. To prioritize a problem and selection of a topic for research, it is helpful to ask yourself a series of questions and then try to answer each of them

- Is the problem a current one? Does the problem exist now?

- How widespread is the problem? Are many areas and many people affected by the problem?
- Does the problem effect social groups, such as students, teachers and patients?
- Does the problem relate to broad social, economic, and health issues, such as unemployment income maldistribution, the status of women, education and maternal and child health?
- Who else is concerned about the problem? Are top government officials concerned? Are medical doctors or other professionals concerned?
- Are the resources available?
- Are measures available to solve the problem?

Review your answers to these questions, and ranked the problem and arrange them according to the ranking.

