

Identifying a Problem: Drafting the Research Proposal

The steps below break down the formula for a successful research proposal. As you are composing your proposal, double-check and make sure you are sticking to the format. Writing and digesting research is about figuring out **how to state and define a problem** and then **persuading your audience you have a solution to it**. To that end, compose 2-3 sentences in response to each of the following steps below given your research topic. Ideally this exercise should produce a roughed in outline of your proposal.

- 1) Identify the problem.
- 2) Identify a result of that problem.
- 3) Give a more specific example of the problem.
- 4) Cite a source, providing a summary of its position that supports your problem exists.
- 5) Provide another piece of evidence your problem.
- 6) How you are going to prove your problem ultimately exists.