RESEARCH PAPERS
THE FIRST STEPS

CHOOSING A TOPIC
The first step in writing a research paper is to choose your topic. A helpful way to make this choice is to brainstorm your options. In this process, you will start by making a viable list of topics. Next, you will narrow the list down by searching for sources. After seeing which topics have good sources, all you have to do is choose the one that you are most interested in!

Do not forget you can always ask your professor if you need help deciding!

CHOOSING YOUR SOURCES
the next step is to choose your sources. The first thing to keep in mind in this step is what kind of source would be the most beneficial.

TYPES OF SOURCES
⭐ Facts
⭐ Opinions
⭐ Periodicals
⭐ News reports
⭐ Government reports

YOUR INTRODUCTION AND THESIS
Every research paper will begin with an introduction paragraph. The purpose of an introduction paragraph is to introduce your topic to the reader and clearly identify your stance.

Every introduction paragraph in research paper will include a thesis statement. A thesis statement is a claim you make about the topic that is justified with specific evidence.

FROM THE WRITING CENTER AT THE ARC