

Rutgers Learning Centers

At Camden Campus

WRITING: DEVELOPING A THESIS

The following process will help in isolating major and minor topics, in gathering data, and in developing a thesis for the research paper. Subject: _____

Topics: Make a list of twenty nouns related to the subject, then group into three or four major topics

_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

What do I want to know about these topics?

Questions:

Answers:

Who _____ ?	_____
What _____ ?	_____
When _____ ?	_____
Where _____ ?	_____
Why _____ ?	_____
How _____ ?	_____

Thesis Statement: What specific information from above do I want to prove, analyze or maintain? What is my main idea?

Information Sources:

IRIS Computerized Directory	Bibliographies _____/_____
MLA, Humanities CD ROM	Books _____/_____/_____
Periodicals and Magazines	Other _____

For more information, visit or call your nearest Rutgers Learning Center, or visit our website:<http://rlc.rutgers.edu>

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