

Sergei Mishchenko

Dec 29th

Researched Essay Brainstorms Worksheet

Brainstorming is a fundamental process to research and writing. More time fine-tuning ideas leads to better research which leads to better researched writing. This worksheet is designed to 1) help you identify topics that interest you, questions you have, and views you already hold; and 2) get you started on some quick research to gauge how "researchable" one of your prospective topics is. These are two strategies

FYI: If it helps, feel free to download and reread the Phase 2 Brainstorms HANDOUT that we reviewed in class. It's on BB in the "Course Materials" folder.

STEP 1: Brainstorm Interests (if you already have a strong interest, skip to STEP 2)

List/freewrite here the various authors/topics/ideas you've found yourself drawn to when learning about the politics of language so far this semester.

I feel drawn to being an individual like in Langston Hughes' poem, which shows the importance of linguistic differences. I am also drawn to the piece about Jine Jordan due to linguistic differences being evident, compared, and analyzed.

Gather and reread your various responses to course texts (at the end of your Rhetorical Situation Worksheets as well as the written responses you wrote for the last three classes). In what ways do your reflections overlap with your list/freewrite above, if at all? What sorts of topics/concepts did you focus on?

They overlap with linguistic ideals, set standards, and in this way evidence pertains to how one should express oneself. The topics I focused on was optimism explained through differences.

Try here to construct a question or two that captures what you may want to investigate for this project.

What emerges from differences we hold important and ideal in a culture of immigrants who are used to different ideals?

STEP 2: Identify Topics that (You Feel) Need to be Exposed to Audiences

What is a topic/issue related to our class that you feel needs to be further investigated and shared? Why do you feel this way?

The topic that needs to be investigated further and shared is the general need to adhere to norms that contradict ideals set by differences.

STEP 3: Brainstorm Sources/Evidence (adapted from *Writing Arguments*, p. 102)

What personal experiences have you had with this issue, if any? What details from your life or the lives of your friends, acquaintances, or relatives might serve as examples or other kinds of evidence?

I have experienced a need to agree to disagree with family, friends, and classmates about stubborn topics such as strong political ties in society, such as Republicanism and Democrats. I had to convince my dad and mom, I couldn't share opinions with friends.

What evidence/information might you hope to find in encyclopedias, magazines, newspapers, scholarly journals, and/or statistical resources (such as U.S. Census Bureau data or *Statistical Abstract of the United States*)?

I would look at politics per state. I would look at a trend. I would look at these trends related to race, and gender.

Which of our course texts might you draw on and why? What specific ideas might you paraphrase or quote?

I would draw on my idea being valid by Longston Hughes. I would also draw on reasonability presented by Jake Jordan. I would paraphrase this is America, and the speech by the police officer.

STEP 4: Do Some Quick Research Online

Try searching via google.com a phrase that captures one of the topics you've identified so far. Some examples include: language politics; language diversity; immigrant English; World Englishes; speaking English with an accent; English-only ideologies; prescriptivism; prescriptive language ideologies; language and race; linguicism; language discrimination; language and culture; etc. Add multiple phrases/terms together with AND (must capitalize) to fine-tune your search (e.g., "language diversity" AND "education"). Try searching with and without quotation marks. How many hits did you get? What are the titles of some of the more promising websites that populated? Save or bookmark any keepers. Jot down here the phrases you used that seem to capture your idea.

How many hits: "politics per state" 1 politics per state with age

Titles of promising sources: kff.org pewresearch.org

Repeat the above search through scholar.google.com. How many hits did you get? What are the titles of some of the more promising scholarly sources that populated? Save or bookmark any keepers.

How many hits: "politics per state with age" 1 hit

Titles of promising sources: "The Origins and Consequences of Affective Polarization in the United States"

Select one or two promising sources or websites that you've found so far through your searches. Skim through it. In what ways does it provide information or perspectives that relate to or differ from your own stance?

They talk about key political differences endorsed, they relate inherently to each other.

STEP 5: Reflections

How strongly do you feel about adopting for your Exploratory Essay assignment the topic(s) you've been researching in this worksheet? What questions/concerns do you have, if any?

I feel pretty strong and hope to hear more analysis to reformulate. My questions and concerns are if this too specific a claim. I am also wondering if I should readress to Republicanism.