

## Chapter 18: Strengthening an Essay with Research

Define research:

Part A: Improving an Essay with Research

Research can:

- Establish your credibility
  - Strengthen your argument
  - Add power to your words
1. Over 100 hikers die each year; 1.7 million for 5843 rescues per year
  2. He was lucky. According to the National Park Service (NPS) website, . . . In addition,
  3. A few well-chosen sources can enliven and improve a paper.

Chart on income and education:

1. The less education an individual has the lower the individual salary they earn (on average).
2. Get an education or learn to live on less.

Four questions to ask when doing research:

- What would I like to know more about?
- What outside sources might make my essay more interesting?
- What information – fact, statistic, detail, or quotation – would make my essay more convincing?
- What people are experts on this topic? Where can I find them or their opinions?

### Practice 1

1. What are the consequences of technology (negative and positive)?
2. Is there job loss due to robots (mechanization)?
3. How does technology/ automation affect our culture?
4. Is the increasing intelligence of machines a good thing or a bad thing?
5. Should technological progress be slowed down? Can we even do that?

**Part B** – Finding and Evaluating Outside Sources: Library and Internet p. 243

Library Research

1. Online Catalog or Card Catalog
2. Periodicals
3. Statistical Sources
4. Encyclopedias and Reference Books

**Book:** Author name(s), title and subtitle, year of publication, publisher and location of publisher, exact pages of material quoted or summarized.

**Magazines:** Author name(s), title of article, title of magazine or journal, year, month and day of publication, volume and number, page number.

**Practice 2**

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

<http://articles.chicagotribune.com/1998/jan/01>

**5 top search engines:**

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

**Types of websites**

.com – business/company

.org - organization usually non profit

.gov - government

.edu – education/schools

**Website:** URL address, owner of site, author name(s), title of article, date written, and date you accessed site.

## Part C

Adding Sources to Your Essay and Documenting Them Correctly

**A correct citation does two things:**

- It tells your reader that the material is from an outside source.
- It gives your reader enough information to find the original source.

**A correct citation appears in two places:**

- **Inside** the essay in parenthesis
- **At the end** in a Works Cited list

If you use the author's name

1. According to John Smith, . . .

(98)

2. No authors name . . .

(Smith, 98)

3. Website

(Author's last name, or first word of title)

## Practice 6

### Works Cited

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Johnson, Dirk. "15,000-Mile Torch Route Gives Lots of People Reasons to Feel Good." *New York Times*  
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Wels, Susan. *The Olympic Spirits: 100 Years of the Games*. Del Mar, California: Tehabi, 1995. Print.