Wikipedia Worksheet



Wikipedia—and other encyclopedias—are not academic sources and it is not appropriate to cite them in academic research. However, there is an important role that Wikipedia can play in the research process.

Wikipedia can be a great starting point for a research topic about which you know little. As with other encyclopedias, it provides a quick overview of the issues that you might want to explore.

Reading an article in Wikipedia can also help give you ideas for a research project if you decide to explore in detail something that is briefly mentioned in the article.

Furthermore, the notes and references in a Wikipedia entry can guide you to useful sources for your research.

Assignment

First, put the general topic of your research in the box above.

Then, go to http://www.wikipedia.org/ and do a search to find a Wikipedia article on your topic.

After you have read the article, list topics covered in the article about which you would like to learn more.

List those topics below. If necessary, you can continue your list on the back of this worksheet.

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

