**Name:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Date:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Score:\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Research Skills Web Quest**

Introduction

Has your teacher assigned a long-term research paper? Wondering how you’re going to tackle something that takes weeks of work? Before you give up all together, take this opportunity to learn how to find information online and shape new information into a solid paper. This Web Quest will help you plan and carry out your research so that you can stay focused and work efficiently.

Task

Your task is to learn how to identify reliable and useful online resources for a research paper and how to cite online sources used in your paper. Then you will learn how to build an outline and how to design an essay.

Process

Step 1: Learn How to Research Online

Step 2: Choose 3 Useful Websites

Step 3: Learn to “Cite” Online Information

Step 4: Learn the 5 Parts of an Essay

**Step 1: Choose Useful Information**

Information available on the internet can seem endless and it is easy to get lost online, which can easily get you off track and waste valuable time. There are many useful techniques that can help you find good research data online, which will make your research process much easier. Follow the link below to learn how to research information online:

<http://www.classzone.com/books/research_guide/page_build.cfm?content=web_research&state=none>

1. Give both a Pro and a Con for the Library and the Internet
2. What does a Directory refer to?
3. What are the 3 steps to creating a Search Strategy?

1.

2.

3.

When you finish all three lessons, move on to Step Two.

**Step Two: Choose 3 Useful Websites**

Now that you have learned how to find information online, it is important to learn how to judge whether that information is accurate. Anyone can publish information online and it is sometimes difficult to know what’s junk and what’s worthwhile. The following website draws from the skills you just learned and teaches you how to judge online information:

<http://www.classzone.com/books/research_guide/page_build.cfm?content=web_eval&state=none>

D. List three questions you should ask when evaluating a website:

1.

2.

3.

E. Once you have finished the tutorial, find and list 3 quality websites that will be useful in your own research paper. (subject – contemporary British literature, you can narrow the topic (genre, authors, famous work, etc))

1.

2.

3.

**Step Three: Learn to “Cite” Online Information**

Because it is important to give other people credit for the work they put on the internet, you are required to “cite” information you borrow from other people and put in your own paper. This is like saying that someone helped you with your homework. When you do not give credit to other people, it is the same as if someone took credit for your idea or did not thank you for your help. In this step, you will cite the three useful websites that you chose in Step Two. Follow the link below to find out more about “citing” information:

<http://www.classzone.com/books/research_guide/page_build.cfm?content=web_citing&state=none>

F. Name three things to keep in mind when trying to avoid plagiarizing:

1.

2.

3.

G. On a separate sheet of paper, correctly cite the three websites from the previous step.

H. Find the “Internet Expert Quiz” on the right hand column of options. Click on this and print out the PDF version. Take this quiz and staple it to this packet.

**Step Four: Learn the 5 Parts of an Essay**

Now that you have found the information you need and learned how to give credit for it, you will need to know how to organize that information into an essay. Knowing how to organize information will also help you decide if you need more information, or if you have finished your research and can focus on writing. Good organization is the best way to be sure your readers (and teachers) will understand the story you are trying to tell. Click on the link below to watch a short video explaining the five-paragraph essay:

<http://www.brainpop.com/english/writing/fiveparagraphessay/>

Username: aubreyisd, password: chaps

I. List the 5 Parts of an Essay

1.

2.

3,

4.

5.

1. Take the graded quiz, then print it out and staple it to this packet!
2. On your separate paper, practice writing an introductory paragraph using information found in the three websites you chose earlier. This introductory paragraph should identify the main theme of your paper and include a thesis statement.

**Assessment**

When you have finished all four steps, **you will turn in this completed packet, the introductory paragraph and website citations on one page, and paper copies of the Brainpop and Internet Expert Quiz.** Your performance should reflect new skills in finding and selecting online information, citing that information properly, and organizing that information in an introductory paragraph.

Congratulations on completing a big step in improving your research and writing skills! These skills will be very important if you want to be a successful communicator. Learning how to find and judge online information will help you stay informed as even more information becomes available through the internet. Learning how to share that information will help you to participate in thoughtful discussion with your peers and colleagues…and basically make you a better person for the rest of your life, so yea. ☺