

Advanced 6th Grade Activism Research Paper



**2019
6th Grade Advanced ELA**

Researcher's Name:

Research Topic:

Assignment Summary:

The definition of activism is: **the policy or action of using vigorous campaigning to bring about political or social change**. Your mission will be to write an argumentative research paper on a problem in your school, community, or world. You will try, like an activist, to research the problem to help later brainstorm solutions. You will be focusing specifically on the **cause** and **effects** of the problem to become more informed.

Purpose:

The purpose of this assignment is to answer the research questions using a variety of resources. I want you to learn the proper way to choose sources as well as how to cite them. You need to become familiar with using multiple sources to have the most complete picture of a given topic.

Role:

You are a researcher that is looking to publish a paper on the evidence you find. You are a text detective.

Audience:

Interested adults as well as your peers will be reviewing your work. We will also provide a brief presentation of work.

Form:

You will be creating a multi-paragraph research paper.

Full Draft FCA's:

- FCA #1: Correctly uses MLA format throughout paper and Works Cited page to elaborate on and to cite sources.
- FCA #2: Evidence to support research questions
- FCA #3: Capitalization

Procedures:

Prior to Starting Our Research We Will:

1. See quality examples of research papers.
 - i. Decide what are the necessary characteristics in research papers (CIRCLE MAP ON PAGE 3)
2. Pick topic.
3. Review key research vocabulary terms.
4. Mrs. Warren-Gross will teach lesson on research including how to evaluate good sources
5. Mrs. Warren-Gross will teach lesson on how to get to a database and fill out a source pages for notes.
6. Create research questions and learn how to narrow down a topic.

After Completing All of the Above We Will:

7. Begin research packet evidence gathering on original research question
 - i. Thinking Maps to help organize our information/sources
8. Create a draft of your introduction paragraph.
9. Separate your evidence into sub-headings.
10. Create body paragraphs with sub-heading sections.
11. Create a conclusion paragraph.
12. Create a complete Rough Draft #1 of your research paper.
13. Revise and Edit
14. Create a complete Rough Draft #2 of your research paper.
15. Revise and Edit
16. Create Works Cited page (revise and edit)
17. Create Final Draft of our research papers including final draft of Works Cited page

****Note: Steps 1-12 are included in packet****

Step 1: Circle Map of Research Paper Exemplars

Step 1: Quality MLA Research Paper Characteristics:
Check them off as you add them to your own project!

Topic:

**Search
Words/Phrases:**
Check them off as
you use them!

Credible Websites:
Check them off as you
use them!

Poor Websites:
**DO NOT USE
THESE!**

Step #1 (continued): Look at Quality Examples for Format, Quotations, and Claim

Quality Example Research Paper

- After reading the research paper, we will come up with a list of characteristics that make it quality. These will go in the CIRCLE MAP ON PAGE THREE. These elements will need to be included in your final draft.

Tree Map Analysis of Example Research Papers

FORMAT

QUOTATIONS

CLAIM

Step #2: Pick a Topic

What in the world will I write about?

Directions: Below you will choose a **topic of your** choice regarding a problem in our school, community or world. Remember these three guiding principles about choosing a research topic:

- You have to be interested in the topic. I recommend choosing a topic that you do not know a lot about.
- You have to be able to define what caused your problem to occur and what are the effects of your problem.
- You have to be willing to think “outside of the box.” Your research will take you many places and your paper focus might change once, twice, or maybe three times.

Some Example School, Community, or World Problems to Consider:

Animal Abuse	Gun Violence	Pollution	Global Warming	Women’s Rights in the US
Women’s Rights in a Chosen Country	Racial Profiling	Hate Crimes	Bullying/ Cyberbullying	Net Neutrality
Book Banning	Refugee Crisis	Immigrant Rights/DACA	Water Quality	Overpopulation
Recycling	Fair Trade	Child Labor	Homelessness	Affordable Housing
Poverty in the US	Unemployment	Animal Testing	Endangered Animals	Factory Farming
Downloading Music	Farm Worker Rights	LGBTQ Rights	Police Brutality	GMOS in Farming
Obesity	Anti-Body Shaming	School Funding	Alzheimer Awareness	Autism Awareness
You can also submit a topic of your choice. It may also include one of these areas, but could also be more specific. Example: Child Labor Brick Making				

My idea I will submit to Mrs. H: _____

****Your topic must be parent/guardian approved as well. See next page****

Step 2 (Continued): Topic Approval-Copy (Separate form will be given in class)

Proposal to Adults	
Name:	
Topic & Tentative Title:	
I want to research this topic because:	
Points I plan to make/discuss include:	

Parent Permission: please check the appropriate options and sign below.

I approve of my child's tentative, proposed topic.

I do NOT approve of my child's topic as-is, and I will specify my concerns below:

Parent Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Step 3: Teacher Permission (Go Forth!)

Your topic, _____, has also been approved by the teacher. If you wish to change your topic, you must get teacher permission for the new one.

Teacher initials/Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Step 3: Research Vocabulary-Resources on Quizlet!

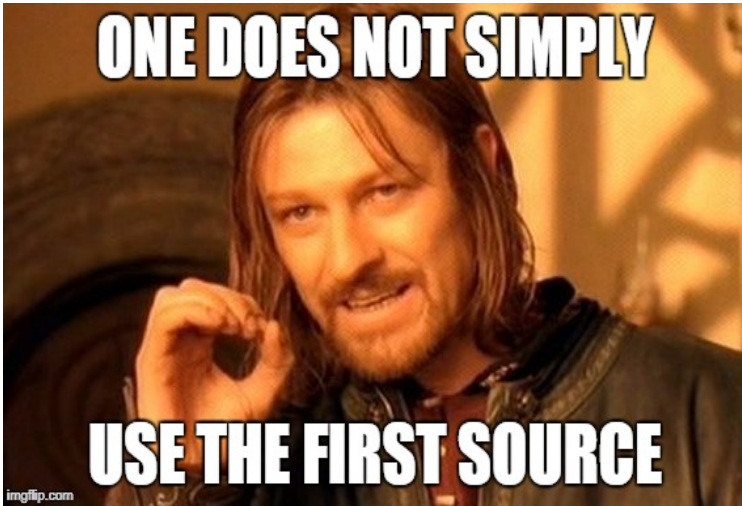
- 1.) **Bias:** Prejudice in favor of or against one thing, person, or group compared with another, usually in a way considered to be unfair
- 2.) **counter-claim:** A position taken by someone with an opposing viewpoint
- 3.) **evaluate:** (v) to determine the value or importance of something and offer judgement; describe both strengths and weaknesses
- 4.) **in-text citation:** correct way to show (in the essay) where a quote or paraphrased information is from
- 5.) **MLA:** Modern Language Association
- 6.) **paraphrase:** (v/n) a restatement of what someone else said or wrote; putting information in your own words
- 7.) **plagiarism:** (n) using someone else's words or ideas without giving proper credit
- 8.) **primary source:** (n) Direct information (original documents, artwork, letters, or writings)
- 9.) **quotations:** (v/n) to write, word for word, what someone else said or wrote; directly stating from a source
- 10.) **Reliable source:** credible source, such as an expert in the field
- 11.) **secondary source:** (n) indirect information (articles, presentations, web sites, encyclopedias, etc.)
- 12.) **summarize:** (v) to shorten the content of a passage of writing; to briefly restate a large amount of information
- 13.) **thesis statement/claim statement:** (n) a clear, concise statement that requires proof in the form of evidence or documentation; main
- 14.) **idea stated in one sentence**
- 15.) **works cited:** a list of sources used in a research paper

**Study online at
quizlet.com/_4e4vfe**

Step #4: Library Lessons from Mrs. Warren-Gross

How do you find good, reliable sources?

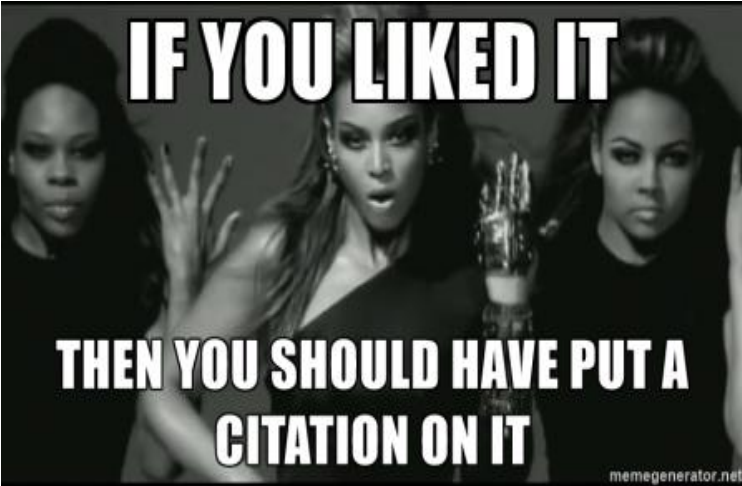
Mrs. Warren-Gross will be teaching you how to locate and use resources in the Maple Street library. Please remember: You are required to have **AT LEAST THREE INTERNET AND ONE BOOK SOURCE** for this project. You also need to make sure that your sources are cited correctly.



Consider the source. How do I decide which source(s) have excellent information?



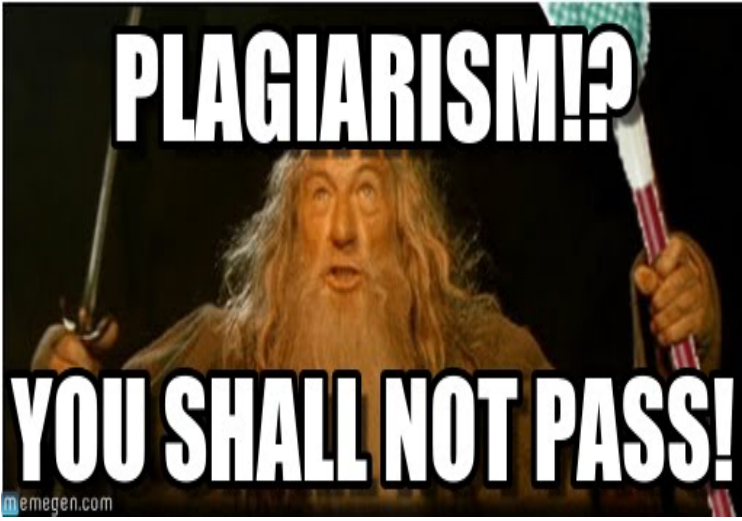
Use the experts. How do I know if a person has information that I can use in my paper?



Cite the information. Why should I cite the information I use in my paper?



It takes time to do it right. Why should I take time to do quality work?



We find good sources not to plagiarize. Can you put the word "plagiarize" into your own words?

Step #5: How to Get to a Database-Flow Map

Step #5 (continued): Example Page: You will complete this with Mrs. WG

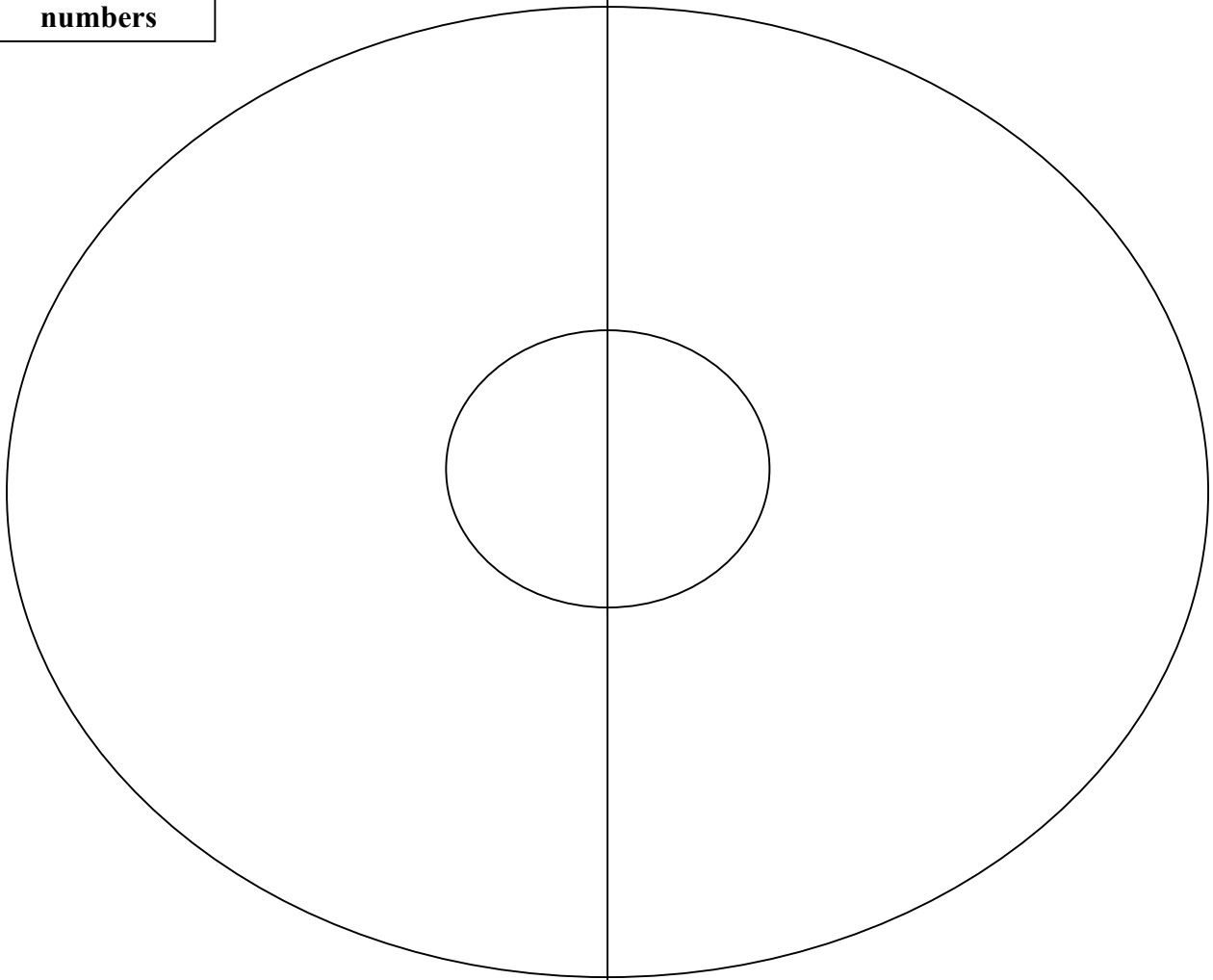
Sample Page

Cite Your Source Here:

Research Question #1:

**Direct
Quotations:
must write
down page
numbers**

**General
Information**



Step 6: Making Research Questions

Example Research Questions:

1. What is your topic's definition?
2. What events were involved?
3. If you have a person or specific activist, what was their biographical information?
4. What people were involved? Why did they matter?
5. Why is your topic a problem?
6. How does it impact people in a negative way?
7. What caused the problem?
8. Where were the effects of the problem?
9. How does the problem impact you? Your community? Your world?
10. Why is this topic important?

Things to Remember:

- You must use at least three credible internet sources.
- You must use one printed source as well!

Step 6 (continued): Brainstorm Research Questions-Circle Map

Step #7: Evidence Gathering

On the page below, you need to organize your evidence/information from your sources.

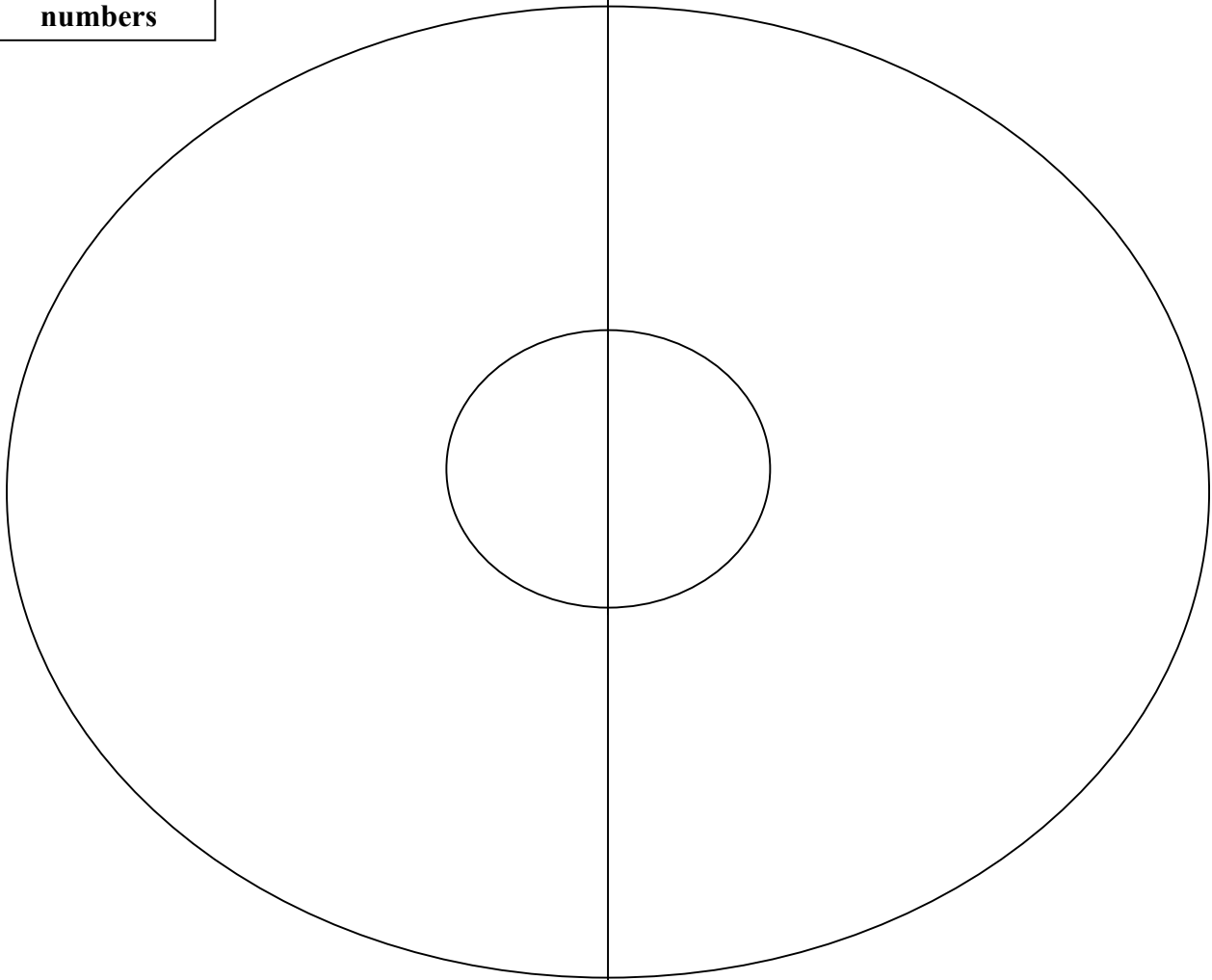
Question #1

Cite Your Source Here:

Research Question #1:

**Direct
Quotations:
must write
down page
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**General
Information**



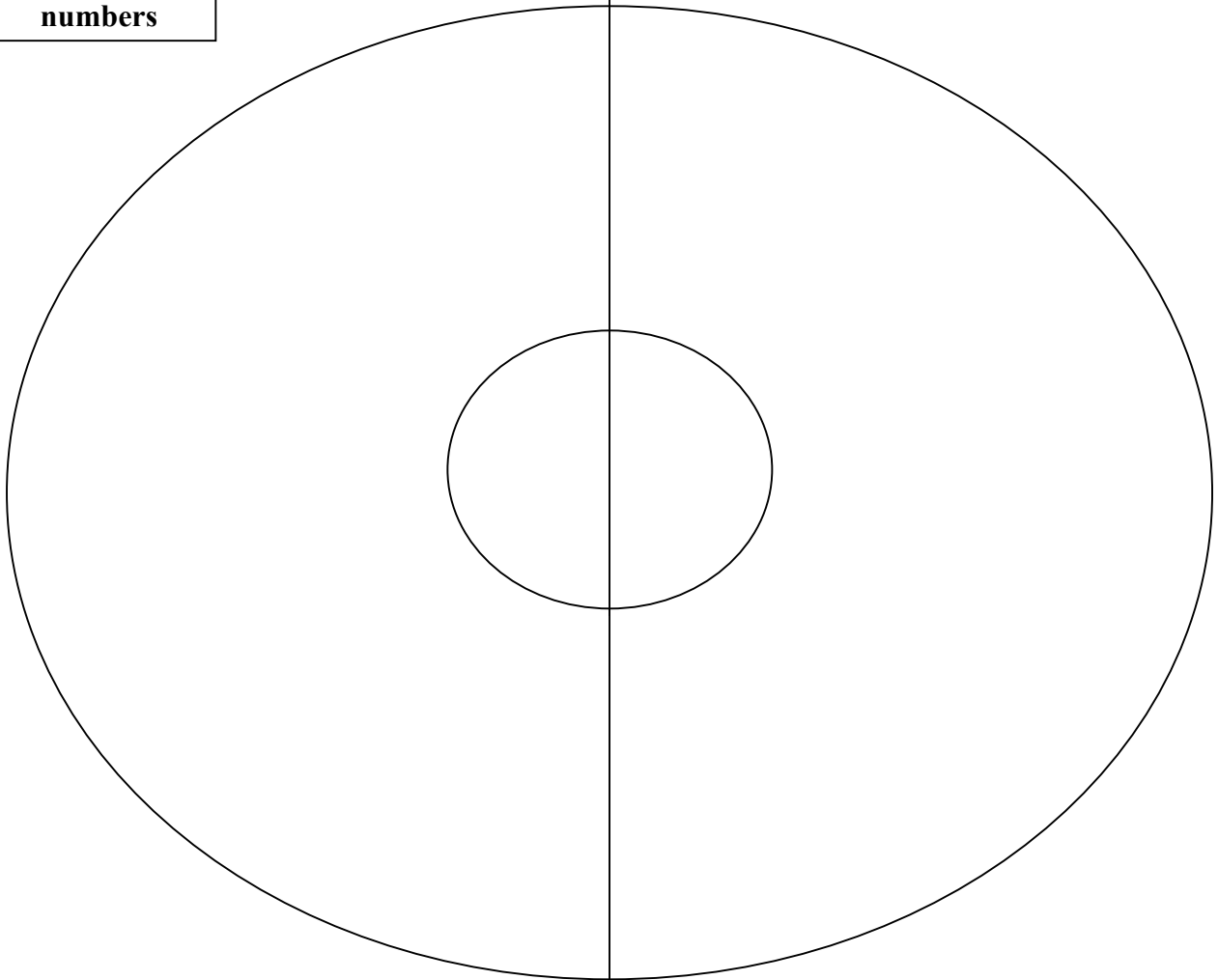
Question #2

Cite Your Source Here:

Research Question #2:

**Direct
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**General
Information**



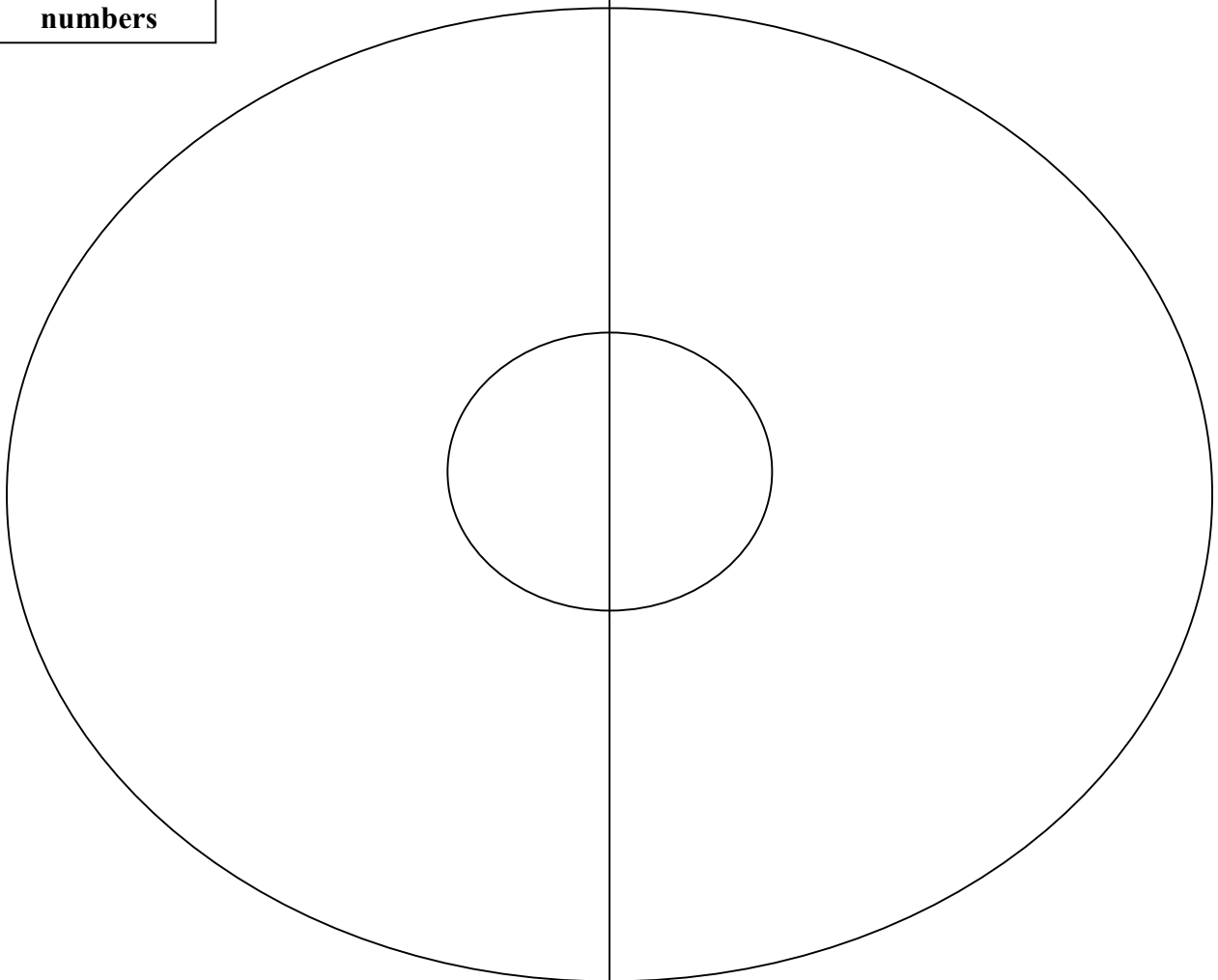
Question #3

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Research Question #3:

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down page
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**General
Information**



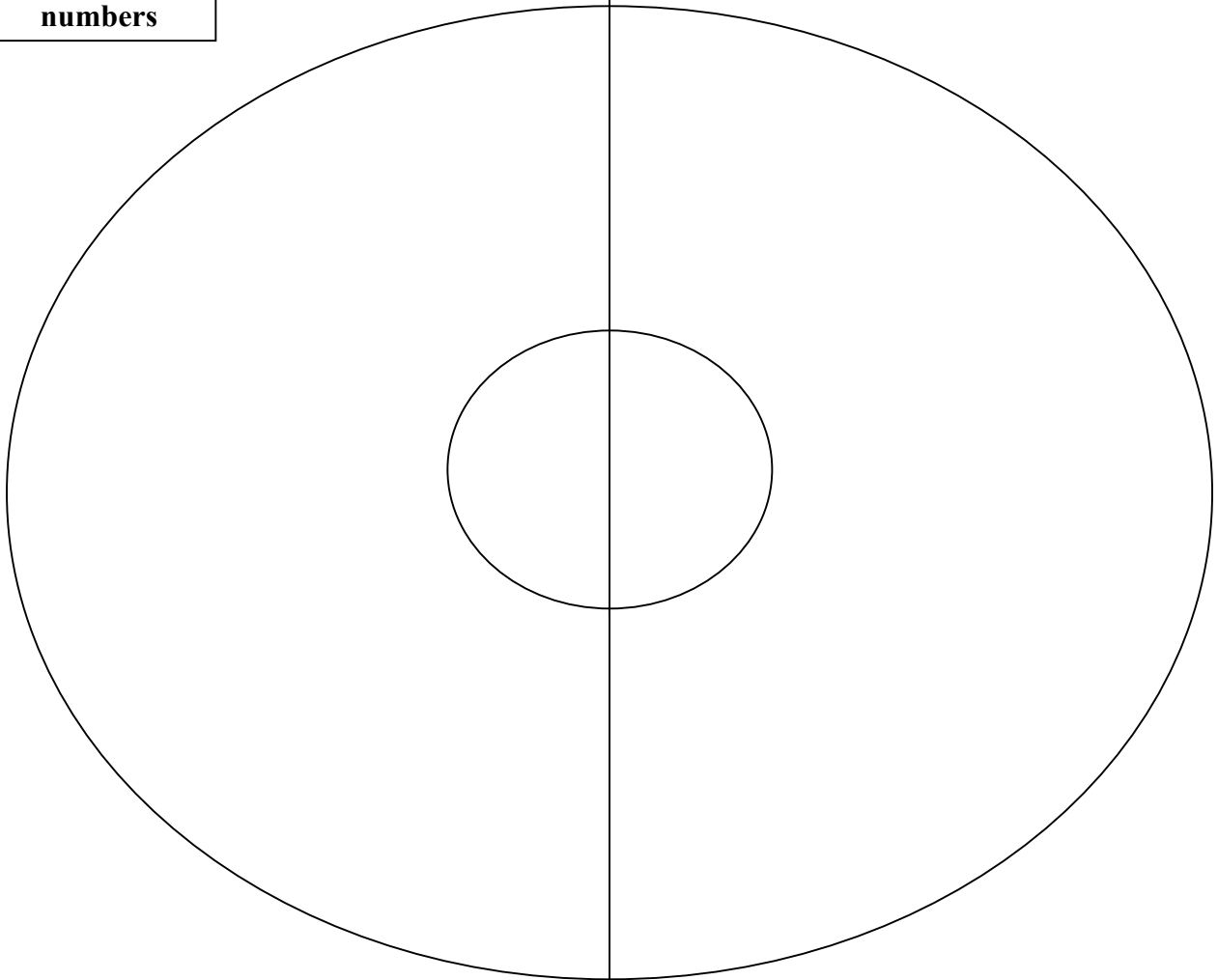
Question #4

Cite Your Source Here:

Research Question #4:

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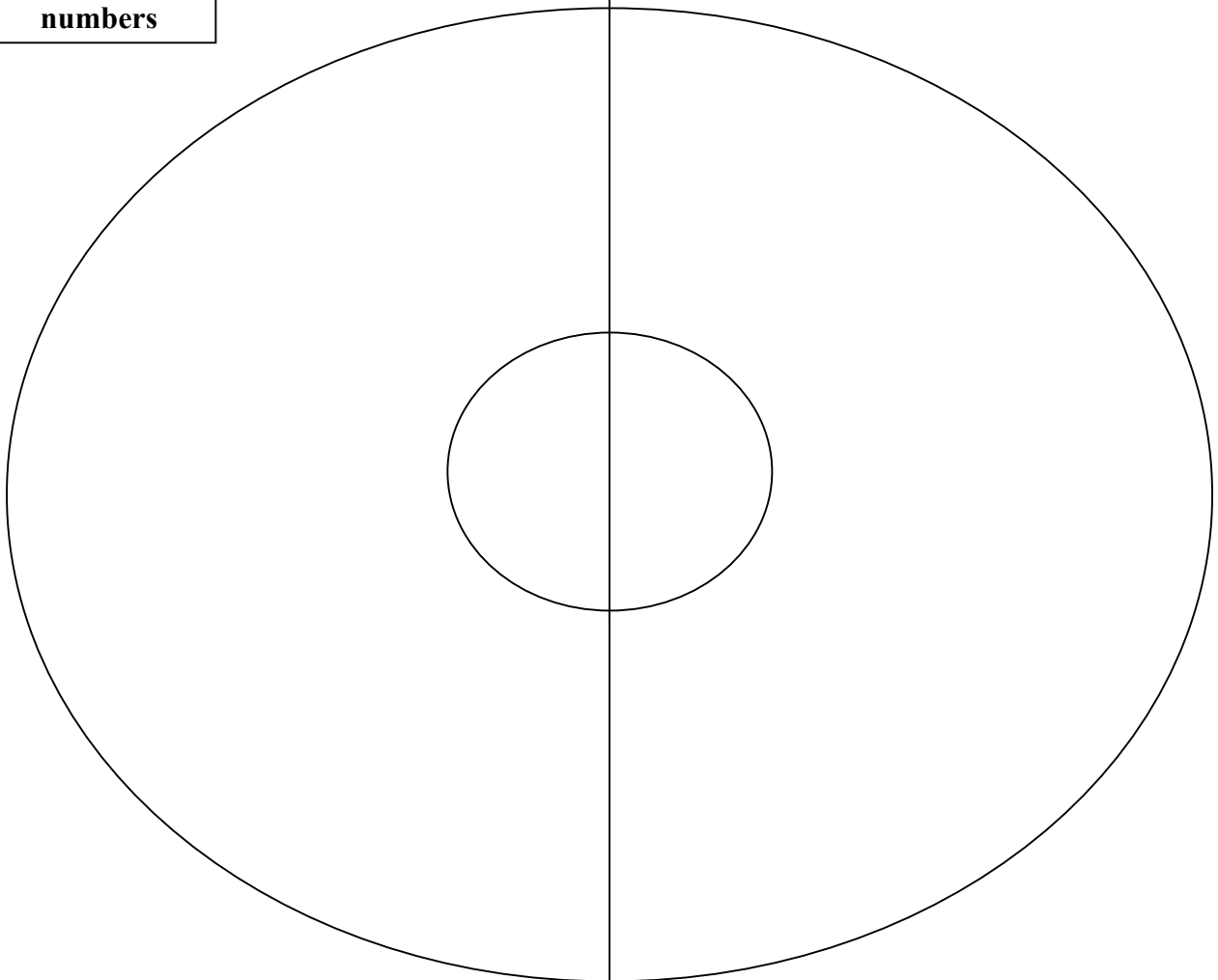
Question #5

Cite Your Source Here:

Research Question #5:

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**General
Information**



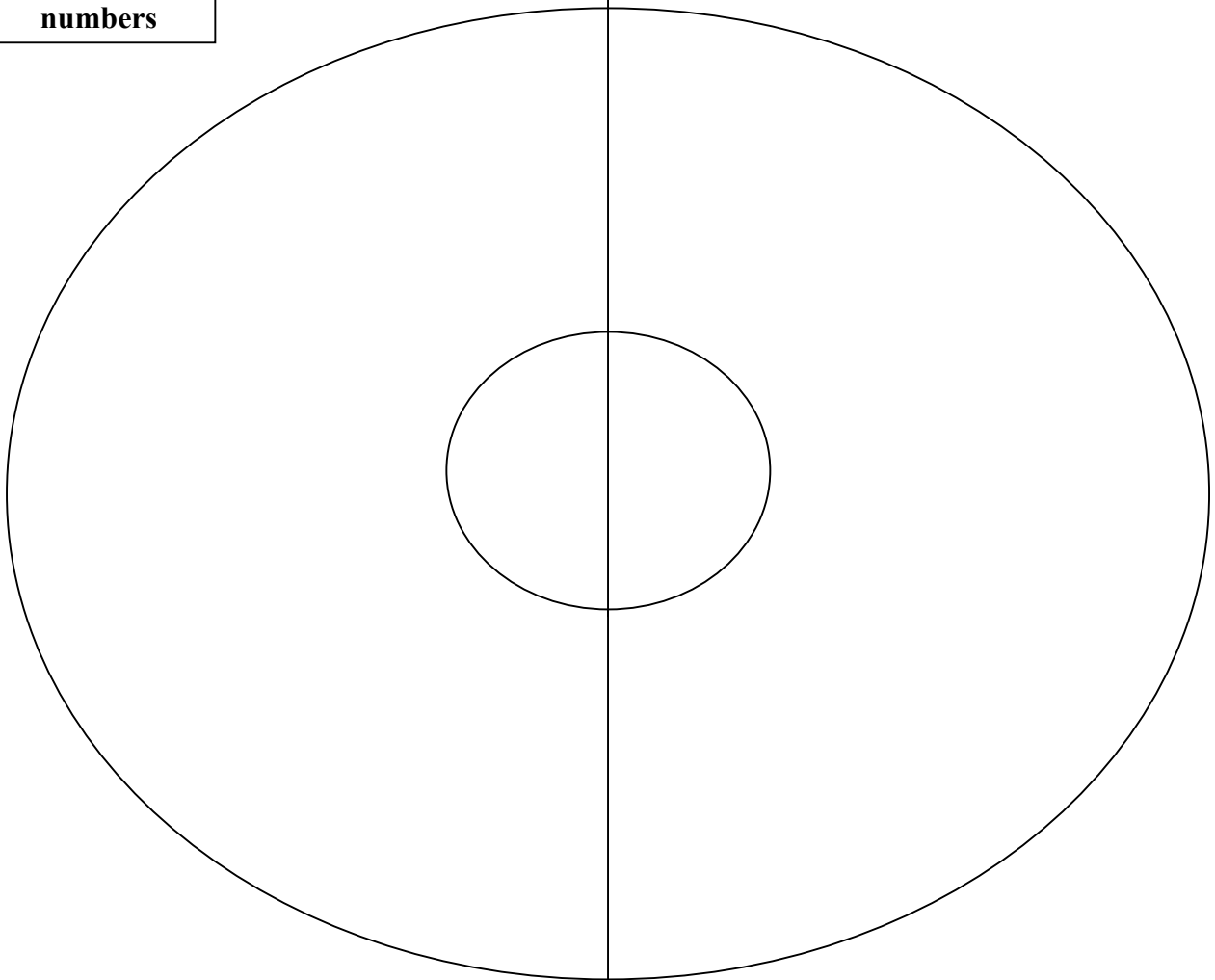
OTHER

Cite Your Source Here:

Research Question #1:

**Direct
Quotations:
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**General
Information**



Start Creating a Rough Draft!

Step #8: Introduction

Hook

Please choose a quote or line directly from your online research that would engage your reader from the beginning.

Summarize the Issue/Give Background Information

It is important to let the reader know a little something about the issue you are writing about. This is not your point of view; it's just a very brief summary. Think of this as a definition of what you are discussing. If you are writing on a certain subject make sure the reader knows what the subject is. For example a paper on the Underground Railroad would require you to let the reader know what the Underground Railroad was. Never assume the reader understands your topic. It is your job to explain it. Another example would be if you had been asked to write about a character in a novel, you would need to make sure the reader has a brief idea of what the novel is about and who the character is. Please write a **BRIEF (2-4 SENTENCES)** summary below.

Create Claim/Thesis/Position Statement

The claim is where you state the main topic of your paper. It is a single sentence that tells the reader what you want them to get out of your paper. Throughout the remainder of the paper, the claim is support by the research your provide.

Write your claim statement on the lines below. In order to write this, you are going to have to make a single sentence summary based on the research that you found on the internet/in books. For example:

_____ has a **negative impact** on _____ due
to _____.

Step #8 (Continued): Introduction Paragraph

Write your introduction paragraph on the lines below. Remember, you must have a:

- Hook-First
- Summary-Second
- Claim-Third (Last in Intro)

X _____

X _____

X _____

X _____

X _____

X _____

X _____

X _____

X _____

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Step #9: Create Sub Title Headings/Organize Information

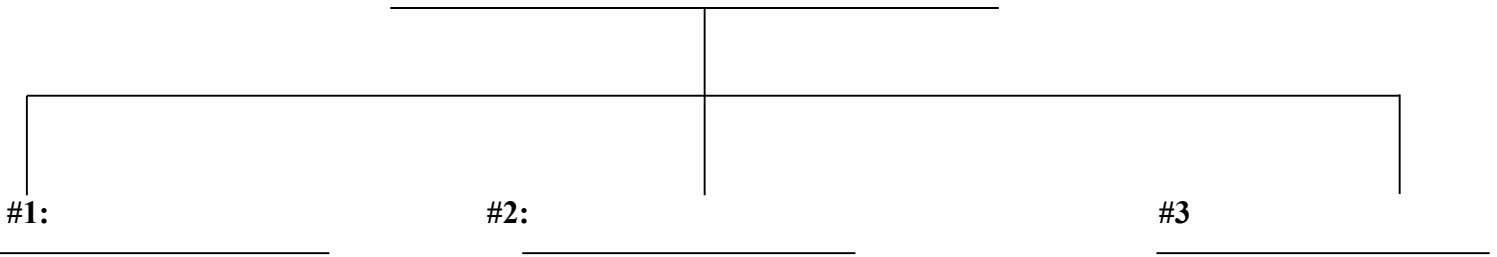
Now that you've finished researching, it's time to look at your evidence and form subheadings. Look at what you've found that answers your research question. What word or phrase summarizes each paragraph? List at least two on the lines below. These will be your sub-headings in your research papers that you will put between each body paragraph to let the reader know what it's going to be about.

Subheading #1: _____

Subheading #2: _____

Subheading #3: _____

In the three map below, write the title of your subheadings and organize which questions (use numbers, don't rewrite questions themselves) will go under each subheading, in the order you will write them in the paragraphs!



Step #10: Body Paragraphs with Sub-Heading Sections

What does it mean to ICE?

Introduce

Cite

Explain

Templates for Introducing “Standard Views”

- Americans today tend to believe that _____
- It is often said that _____
- Many people assume that _____

Templates for Explaining Why Your Claim Matters

- X matters/is important because _____
- Ultimately, what is at stake here is _____
- These conclusions have significant applications in _____ as well as _____

Templates for Introducing Quotations

- X states, “ _____ ”
- According to X, “ _____ ”
- X agrees/disagrees when she writes “ _____ ”

Templates for Explaining Quotations

- Basically, X is saying _____
- In other words X believes _____
- X is insisting that _____
- X’s point is that _____
- This means that X believes that _____

HOW TO CITE YOUR SOURCES:

You must use **3 websites** and **1 book** source for your evidence.

BOOKS:

Author Last Name, Author First Name. *Book Title*. State of Publication: Publisher, Year.

ONLINE:

Title. Sponsoring Organization, Date of Publication. Web. Date of Access. <www.includeyourwebsiteaddresshere.com>.

SCHOLASTIC:

Click on “How to Cite This Article”, record the MLA format onto your circle map.

GROLIER:

Click on “How to Cite This Article”, record the MLA format onto your circle map.

ENCYCLOPEDIA (ACTUAL BOOK VERSION):

Author of Article. “Title of the Article.” Complete Title of the Encyclopedia. Copyright date (edition).

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