

# Thinking Tool: Choosing a Topic and Search Terms

1

**What is your assignment?**

How long is your paper? How many sources do you need? What kind?

2

**What is your main idea?**

This doesn't have to be your final choice of topic. It's a place to start.

3

## Concept Cloud

Write down anything related to your main idea. Anything!  
(Use Wikipedia for help here).



Main Idea

4

## Keywords:

Choose a group of words that might go together.

5

## Your search terms:

Up to three keywords.

Remember: Add or subtract keywords to get different results. Pick different ones! Start with a new main idea!

