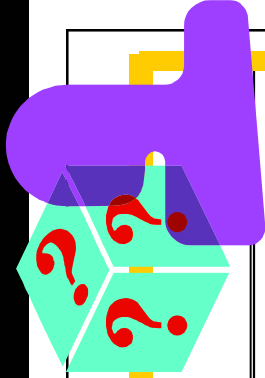


Worksheet: Choosing Your Research Topic



Mapping out your search strategy

1	A general topic. Just a rough idea.	(Write your idea here; it can be a couple of words.)		
2	Write down a question regarding your topic.	(Narrow down your topic with a specific issue—focus!)		
3	Underline two or three concepts essential to your question.			
4	Write each essential concept at the top of its own column separated by AND	term 1	term 2	term 3
5	Use the columns to list synonyms under each concept (keywords that have similar meaning for each concept) separated by OR	—or— —or— —or— —or— —or—	—or— —or— —or— —or— —or—	—or— —or— —or— —or— —or—
	Enter a search query in a database or search engine using some of the combinations of search terms above, separated by AND or OR (this is called Boolean searching).	and	and	and
		and	and	and
		and	and	and
		and	and	and
		and	and	and
		and	and	and