**Part B: Gathering Information**

You have now picked a focus for your research. It is now time to research your topic so that you can, after a few days, make a claim regarding your topic. Remember your claim is another word for your argument or your position. Eventually, it will become a thesis statement for your argumentative research paper.

**Research Requirements**

For this project, you will need to read and annotate at least 4 sources (including 2 article sources, 1 book source, and at least 1 opposing viewpoint, which can be from either a book or an article). You should aim to complete two sources each day we spend in the library.

**Step 1: Find sources.**

1. To find books, use the library’s Electronic Card Catalog.

2. To find articles, explore the following resources:

**2014-15 LIBRARY DATABASE PASSWORDS**

LPHS Library website: http://lphsmedia.blogspot.com/

***Opposing Viewpoints:*** Go to the library website’s Student Tools tab. Click on Pioneer link that has (Opposing Viewpoints) by it. Click on Opposing Viewpoints.

**Username: pioneer**

**Password: discover**

***SIRS Issue Researcher:*** Go to http://sks.sirs.com

**Username: IWU7P6SM**

**Password: 98GPQWGQ8U**

***Pros & Cons of Controversial Issues:*** Go to procon.org.

**Google Scholar:** Go to scholar.google.com

**Step 2: Record MLA citations for your sources.**

It is important to keep track of your sources as you research. By doing so, it will be easy later to create the Works Cited page of your paper. Write down the correctly formatted MLA citation for each source, either on this page or on a separate electronic document. Check it off with me at the same time you check off your annotations

There are many resources to help you create MLA-formatted citations. One easy-to-use tool is available on our library’s website:

http://www.easybib.com.

**Book:**

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**Article 1:**

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**Article 2:**

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**Opposing View:**

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**Step 3: Annotate your sources.**

**Instructions for online articles:**

Annotate your articles either by printing them off or by making notes on an electronic copy. Annotate for two things:

* Write the main idea of each paragraph in the margins of the article.
* Identify and analyze quotes that you could potentially use in your final paper.

**Instructions for book sources:**

Write at least one page of notes including summary of main ideas and potential quotes you might use in your paper.

Pass your annotations off with me when completed.

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