

## Writing Research Papers Week 1: What are you talking about and why bother? (Choosing a topic)

Narrow your topic by asking questions like:

- Who is involved?
- What did they do?
- Where did they do it?
- Why did they do it?
- When did they do it?
- Who did it affect?

Or narrow your topic by:

- Location
- Time
- Category

Jot down everything you know about the topic and decide what small part is the most interesting to you.

Decide whether you're going to **inform** or **persuade**.