Five + Five Worksheet
Research Planning + Research Argumentation

Five Considerations for Research Planning*

Identify a Topic
Be as specific as possible - identify key words you might use in a search

*I am working on the topic of -

Develop Questions & Begin Research
Use the words *how* and/or *why* so questions need explaining - Record your sources

*Because I want to find out how/why -

Draft Significance
The most interesting, important point the paper will make and what needs explaining

*To help others understand -

Draft Purpose
Consider why you are writing – what you might want others to do or to think

*And they might use my work to -

Identify an Audience
Think about their levels of knowledge and interest to guide your research

*These others are -

#based in the Turabian style research statement:
I am working on X to find out Y so that others can better understand Z.

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Five + Five Worksheet  
Research Planning + Research Argumentation  
Five Considerations for Research Argumentation

Claims  
Statements requiring explanation about which there can be reasonable discussion  
*What should we understand? My main point is - 

Reasons & Evidence  
Reasons are ideas & evidence refers to real things  
*How do we know? The reasons, facts/data to back this up are - 

Recognition of Alternatives  
Questions, objections, evidence to the contrary, other reasonable points of view  
*But what about . . . ? Other ways of thinking about this are - 

Response to Alternatives  
*How is my point better, how do alternatives relate to it?

Assumptions and Limits  
Explain the assumptions behind, connections between, and any limits of claims  
*What is my reasoning? A claim is true because - 

*A claim is limited to - 

# based in *The Craft of Research*, 4th Edition  
By Booth, Colomb, Williams, Bizup and Fitzgerald

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