



Narrowing a Topic Using a General to Specific Triangle

Your goal in a research project is to become an expert in a particular topic. If your topic is too broad, finding and interpreting information about the topic like preparing to write an entire book! Choosing a narrower topic limits your provides a clear focus for your process. If you know a little about the specific topic, try generating research questions.

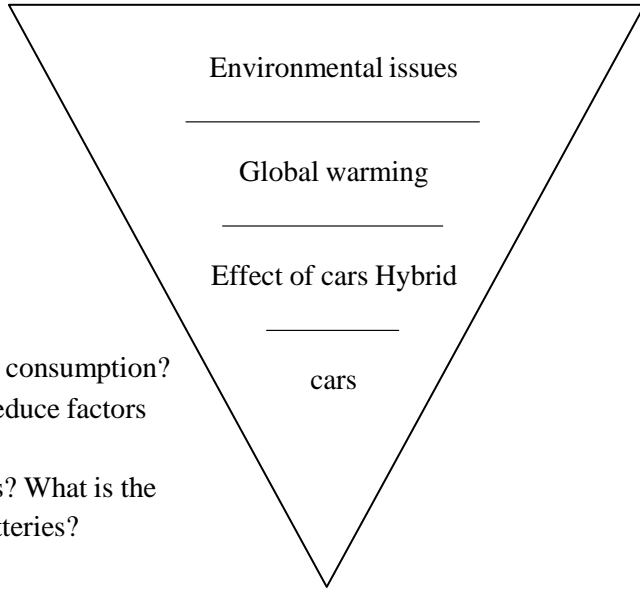
Example:

General: Environment Narrower:

Global warming Narrower:

Effect of automobiles Specific:

Hybrid cars



Possible research questions:

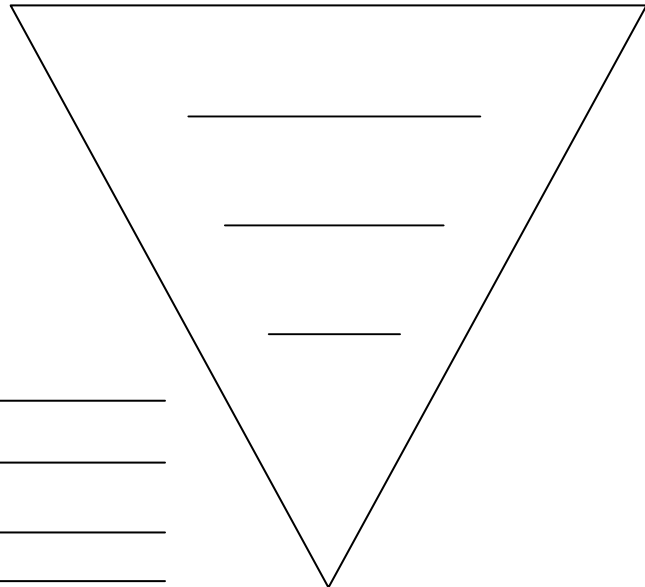
- How does hybrid technology reduce fuel consumption?
- Does driving a hybrid car significantly reduce factors that lead to global warming?
- What is the battery life of the hybrid cars? What is the environmental effect of disposing the batteries?

You try: General:

Narrower:

Narrower:

Specific:



Possible research questions:

The Research Project Calculator is based on the MINITEX project developed in part by University of Minnesota Libraries. Permission to transform into interactive PDF granted by MINITEX.

<http://www2.infohio.org/rpc/docs/step1/NarrowingTopic.pdf>