

PRELIMINARY QUESTIONS

This can be a very IMPORTANT step in research. Just suppose you don't know how to start your research? How will you begin? Suppose your teacher has not given you an idea of what is to be included in your report? Here's what you can do: Make a list of things you want to include or a list of questions that you want to answer. These are questions about your topic that need to be answered. They will guide your note taking.

Below in the boxes are two samples of a list of preliminary questions for a topic.

SAMPLE ONE

Topic: Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Questions:

1. What is the background of Dr. King? (Early life, education, etc.)
2. What were his accomplishments?
3. What is the importance of his accomplishments?
4. How did he make a difference to the world or to history?

SAMPLE TWO

Topic: Eating Disorders

Questions:

1. What is an eating disorder?
2. Why are eating disorders dangerous?
3. What causes an eating disorder?
4. What is a person's proper weight?
5. Are there any treatments for eating disorders?