

**Answering your research question can**

**give you a good**

**thesis!**

\*From Burkhardt, MacDonald, Rathemacher. (2010). *Teaching information literacy*. Chicago: ALA. p. 31

**Types of research questions:\***

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Comparison** | **Cause/Effect** | **Measuring** | **Process** |
| How do the effects of the problem affect different players differently? | What are the causes of the problem or the effects? How would it change if we changed some aspect of it? | How extensive is the problem itself or the effects of it? | What processes are involved with the problem or its possible solutions? |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Research Question Examples:\*** | | | |
| **Broad Topic** | **Restricted Topic** | **Narrowed Topic** | **Research Question** |
| Oceans | Sharks | Declining populations | How would it affect the fishing industry off the West Coast of the US if we did not protect shark populations? |
| Nutrition\* | Diets | Vegetarianism | What nutritional benefits are there to vegetarianism? |
| **Let’s do one together** | | | |
|  |  |  |  |
| **Your turn now…** | | | |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |

**NOTE**: Research questions **cannot** be answered with a simple “yes” or “no.”

*EG 102 Creating a Research Question*

For information searching, use the databases you learned about in EG 101 Academic Search Premier, CQ Researcher, Credo Reference, Opposing Viewpoints, Oxford Reference, or use appropriate subject databases. For a review of these, go to <http://www.esulibinstruction.weebly.com>.

**Possible combinations of words/phrases:**

**Reminder**: Type **AND** between words and phrases.

**Synonyms or related words/phrases #1**

**Synonyms or related words/phrases #2**

**Synonyms or related words/phrases #3**

**Synonyms or related words/phrases #4**

**Most important words/phrases from you research question:**

**HINT**: You want 2-5 words or phrases.