

The English III Research Paper is written during English PACEs 1131 – 1132

Select and Limit the subject or topic:

Choose a subject that interests you and one which you wish to find answers for. Check for availability of material. Some subjects, like autobiographies, are not suitable and others may be too broad or too narrow. 5,000 – 10,000 words will cover most topics (10 – 20 double-spaced typewritten pages). Selections may be made from primary sources (diaries, personal journals, interviews) and secondary sources (materials written about an event or a person by someone detached from the time period).

Prepare a working bibliography:

Five to ten sources are a good measure for a paper of 10 – 20 pages. When the sources have been identified, source cards can be made. These will be part of the working bibliography.

Prepare a preliminary outline and thesis statement:

Follow general reading and develop a preliminary outline which will guide you and keep you on course. Determine the main points and establish a framework on which all supporting details will be attached and provide coherence and direction. Be sure to include a thesis statement – the fact or issue you will discuss in your research paper.

Read and take notes:

Work with the bibliography, preliminary outline and note cards. Start with the first Roman numeral division and proceed in chronological order. Survey the contents of each book for information concerning the outline topic. Skim those sections for useful material. Choose the best sources for that topic and put the remainder aside for future reference. Allow only one note per card unless the points are closely related. Look for new ideas to be added to the outline.

**ADVANCED LEVEL
ENGLISH III
RESEARCH PAPER**



Assemble notes and write the final outline:

Complete all note-taking, make any necessary changes to your outline and revise the thesis statement. Now complete the final outline and arrange your note cards to correspond with your outline points.

Write the rough draft with endnotes:

Write the opening paragraph to introduce the reader to the purpose of the paper. Aim to make a smooth transition into the first paragraph. Most of the information will come from interviews or library sources and needs to be acknowledged through the use of endnotes.

Write the final draft with endnotes and bibliography:

The final draft should be as error-free as possible. Observe double-spacing and one inch margins on every page of text. Add your name and page number on every right hand upper corner and pay careful attention to the proper numbering of the endnotes. The bibliography should include all sources from which information is taken and should be the last page of the final draft. Remember the sources are listed in alphabetical order with the author's last name first. The bibliography should be single-spaced but double-spaced between each entry.