

The four Bs: enter the research process

Strategies to find information are summed up in the mind map below.

1. **Go from broad to narrow terms** and use some tools such as reference books to find out precise vocabulary
 - Find more background info on your topic using questions: What?, Where?, When?, Who?, Why?
2. **Gather a bounty of search terms** and then choose some to start your actual research in resources
 - Use resources (thesaurus and synonyms dictionaries, CREDO mindmap, ProQuest or Ebscohost subject terms lists) to increase your list of search terms if you don't find answers.
 - Find definitions to be more precise
3. **Use biographies** to find main actors in your research field: specialists, writers, or historical figures...
4. Once you choose a document to read, **take bibliographical notes** to reference information precisely. Your teacher will use them to validate your work. **Take bibliographical notes on every document you select and read.**

It's easier to erase a useless document with references than trying to find the source afterwards.

