

## Planning for Research: Prior Knowledge Survey

### 11A Literature/Composition, Mrs. Hamilton

1. Which of the following research databases are you familiar with? (check all that apply)

<input type="checkbox"/> SIRS Researcher in GALILEO	<input type="checkbox"/> Gale Discoverin g Collection	<input type="checkbox"/> GALE Opposing Viewpoints	<input type="checkbox"/> Gale Virtual Reference Library	<input type="checkbox"/> EBSCOhost Academic Search Complete in GALILEO
<input type="checkbox"/> Other Databases You Know/Are Familiar With:				

2. How comfortable do you feel knowing how to find the kinds of books you need for a research project in a school library?

- Very comfortable---I know how to use the Destiny software to look up a book
- Somewhat comfortable---I can find them, but knowing which key words are best to find the right books is sometimes tricky.
- Not comfortable at all----I have little or no idea how to search for books on my topic, but I am open to help.

3. What do we mean when we talk about “quality” or “authoritative sources” of information? How do you know if an information source is reputable and reliable?

4. What are your skills with using NoodleTools for creating Works Cited pages and electronic notecards? What previous experience do you have using this software?

**5. What skills do you feel you need to work on or improve for doing research? Check all that apply.**

- Knowing how to narrow my topic so that it is “just right”---so that it is not too narrow but not too broad.
- Knowing how to come up with research questions and/or how to come up with “sub-areas” of research for my main topic.
- Knowing how to find good and helpful sources of information.
- Knowing how to paraphrase information or how to put it in my own words so that I am not just copying and pasting what someone else has said.
- Knowing how and when to use direct quotes (something that is copied word for word) in my paper.
- Knowing how to set up an outline for my paper.
- Knowing how to find the bibliographic information to create an MLA style citation for the Works Cited page.
- Understanding the purpose for the Works Cited page.
- Knowing how to use parenthetical references in the body of my paper correctly and when to use them.
- Knowing how to properly use parenthetical references in the body of my paper MLA style.
- Knowing how to take good notes that are helpful when I am researching.
- Other: (please explain or list)

**6. What kinds of research papers or projects have you done in high school so far? Please list and explain.**

**7. Think about your three topic choices. Do you think your paper will be one that explores the topic, or do you think your paper will be on that intends to persuade the audience of a viewpoint or stance on a topic?**

- Expository/Informative
- Persuasive