The Question of Research

Derek Malone  
*University of North Alabama, dmalone3@una.edu*

Paul Campbell  
*Ohio University - Main Campus, campbep1@ohio.edu*

Follow this and additional works at: [https://ir.una.edu/libfacpresentation](https://ir.una.edu/libfacpresentation)  
Part of the [Higher Education Commons](https://ir.una.edu/libfacpresentation) and the [Information Literacy Commons](https://ir.una.edu/libfacpresentation)

Recommended Citation  
The question of research: Walking students from broad topics to a quality inquiry question.

Paul Clayton Campbell, Ohio University Lancaster

Derek Malone, University of North Alabama

**Problem:**
Librarians often ask students to have their research question in hand before they show up for library instruction but, only some of them do. Secondly, the students that do show up with something they often only have a broad research topic and not a research question.

**Solution:**
Analysis: Librarians found students had a gap in knowledge in creating research questions. This gap had a negative impact on library instruction outcomes.

Design: Librarians outlined a lesson plan that included a class activity to create a research question.

Develop: Librarians developed a class activity to identify the main ideas of their research question and build an useful keyword list.

Implement: Librarians were able effectively to implement this into freshman English courses.

Evaluate: Empirical results showed students understood the process of creating quality research questions and keyword lists.

**Keywords:**
Have students extract main ideas from question and find alternative keywords.

**Created Learning Object:**