Name:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**1. Write down your subject (topic):\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**2. What type of paper will best convey your topic?**

**Argumentative Expository**

3. Narrow down your Topic/Subject by writing the more specific area you want to cover.

**4. Now write a thesis statement (topic + commentary) for your subject here:**

**3. Self-evaluate: Is the thesis focused? What kind of argumentative claim is being made?**  
  
  
  
**4. What specific resources or websites have I found to support my thesis?**

**Tips for good commentary:**

* Is the commentary a strong opinion or just stating a fact?
* Is it specific enough to be interesting?
* Is it arguable? Can the obverse view be argued as well?
* Is it concise? Can you say it more briefly?
* Is it written in present or past tense? Writing about literature should be in present tense. Writing about history should be in past tense.
* Does it use I, my, me, or other first person? It shouldn’t.
* All formal expository writing MUST be in the Third Person. She writes, They write, etc…

**Examples:**  
Not specific enough: School is good.   
Specific: Attending school regularly is the best way to become a successful communicator.

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