



# Develop Topic

Directions: Read each question carefully and choose the best answer.

- You need to research a holiday from a different country and create a handout about it for your final product. Which subtopic should be included in your handout?
  - Your favorite holiday
  - The origins of the holiday
  - The number of holidays observed in Spain
  - Santa Claus
- Most report topics are too broad and must be narrowed. Which topic is the narrowest?
  - Asian literature
  - Japanese poetry
  - Haiku poetry
  - World literature
- You are about to write a report about the Mayans for social studies. You need to have a list of four questions before you start writing the report. From the five questions below choose one question that would be least helpful for your report.
  - Who were the Mayans?
  - Why are the Mayans studied in school?
  - How did the Mayans grow their food?
  - Where did the Mayans live?
  - Why was the Mayan civilization important?
- You must write a three-page report for class. Which topic would be the best choice for a three-page paper?
  - Animals
  - Science
  - Elephants
  - Mammals
- Read the original topic and the revised topic. Decide if the revised topic is broader (less specific) or narrower (more specific) than the original topic.

Initial topic: Describe what is needed to grow healthy plants.  
Revised topic: Describe the soil composition that works best to grow tomato plants.

  - Broader
  - Narrower
- You are assigned a research project on animals. You need to narrow the topic. Which group below begins with the broadest topic and then moves to the narrowest topic at the end?
  - Mammals, wild cats, animals, lions
  - Animals, mammals, wild cats, lions
  - Lions, wild cats, animals, mammals
  - Animals, mammals, lions, wild cats

7. Read the first topic and the revised topic below. Is the revised topic broader (less specific) or narrower (more specific) than the first topic?

First topic: Many civilizations around the world built pyramids.

Revised topic: More than 100 pyramids were built in Egypt.

- (A) Broader
  - (B) Narrower
8. You are doing a report about astronauts working in space. Which question below is least important to answer for this report?
- (A) How do astronauts breathe when working in space?
  - (B) What do astronauts eat in space?
  - (C) What happens if astronauts get sick while working in space?
  - (D) How do astronauts put out fires working in space?
9. Which question would be most helpful in finding relevant information if you were doing research about United States westward expansion?
- (A) Who was the President?
  - (B) What was the Oregon Trail?
  - (C) Where is Mexico?
  - (D) When was the United States founded?

10. You have chosen music as your topic for a research project. This topic is too broad and needs to be narrowed. Which would make a more manageable topic for your research?

- (A) The Beatles
- (B) Rock and roll music
- (C) Music through the ages
- (D) Modern day musical instruments



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## Answer Key

1. B
2. C
3. B
4. C
5. B
6. B
7. B
8. B
9. B
10. A