

## WORKSHEET: WRITING RESEARCH QUESTIONS

**Directions:** This worksheet should be done after you've started your research. In Part I: Write down what you know and what you want to know about your topic. In Part II you will brainstorm some research questions using the prompts.

**Your Topic:**

### **What I know**

Write down some things you already know about your topic through your research. This will give you good context to come up with questions.

### **What I want to know**

Write as many questions as you can, related to your topic. Mark each question with a "C" for Closed (the question can be answered with a quick google search), or "O" for Open (you need more research and multiple sources to answer your question).

**Part II:** Remember, a good historical question will help you investigate your topic's cause and effect, multiple perspectives, and the short- and long-term impacts. Brainstorm some questions to about your topic. Use two or three of these questions to help guide your further research.

Category	Example: The Fugitive Slave Act of 1850	Research Questions for Your Topic
<p>Causes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What caused the main event?</li> <li>• What were the people, ideas, and events that impacted your topic?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Why did Southern States practice slavery while Northern states did not?</li> <li>➤ What was the debate between slave owners and abolitionist?</li> <li>➤ What events led to the Fugitive Slave Act being passed?</li> </ul>	
<p>Short-term Effects</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What happened?</li> <li>• Did anything change right away?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ What agreements were part of the Compromise of 1850?</li> <li>➤ Did everyone in Northern States Follow the Fugitive Slave Law?</li> </ul>	
<p>Multiple Perspectives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Who were the different groups involved in your topic?</li> <li>• What were the different ideas on your topic?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ How did people in Southern States feel about the Fugitive Slave Act. How did people in the North feel about it?</li> </ul>	
<p>Long-term Effects</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How did your topic change history?</li> <li>• How are things different because of your topic?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Did the Fugitive slave act resolve the issues between the Northern and Southern States? Why or why not?</li> <li>➤ What role did the Fugitive Slave Act have in the start of the Civil War?</li> </ul>	