

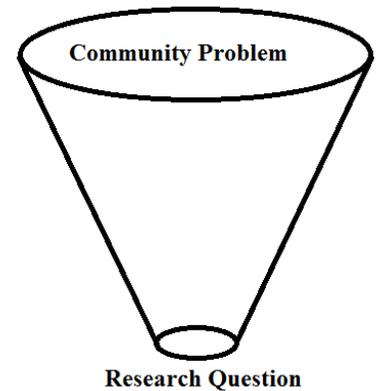
Justification/Background Research

Score Sheet - Worth 7 Points, scored by HSTA Teacher

- *Background information is related to the research question*
 - Make sure your background information is about your research question.
 - Talk about what is known about the topic and why the study is needed.
- *Background information is referenced using correct in-text APA citations for 4 sources.*
 - Resources used to explain background information are to be cited in the text (See handout on In-Text Citations).
 - All in-text citations are the **same ones** that will be on your reference slide.
- *Background information is cited from at least two academic resources.*
 - Government Agencies, Google Scholar, other databases.
- *Background information has at least two facts from each source, totaling at least 8 sources*
 - You will use at least four references and from each reference you will have at least two facts listed, totaling at least eight facts.
- *Background information is highlighted in bulleted format, not in paragraph form.*
 - Your background should be a summary of what you have learned about your observation/topic.
 - Do not write paragraphs on these slides.
- *Background information is not plagiarized.*
 - Everything should be a summary of what you have learned **in your own words**.
 - Limit the number of direct quotes used.
 - Plagiarism is a severe problem and could result in a discussion with the Local Governing Board.
- *Background information was limited to 20% of quotes.*

Tips

1. When you research websites, take notes on what you read and write down the link so that you can come back to it later.
2. You need to explain what your topic is, why it is important to the community, and set the tone for your research project. Think of this as a funnel - you start with a broad opening and end with a narrow opening. You need to start your background research with basic information about your topic then narrow it down, so it leads right into your research question.



You want to give your audience a little more information about the topic you are researching before you start talking about the actual research project. Here is an exercise that might help develop and write your background slides.

Step 1: Write down your community problem. Try to sum this problem up in one or two words.

Step 2: Write down your research question.

Step 3: You want to have a general slide about the community problem. You want to talk about the topic in a broad way with community data if you can.

Step 4: Now you want to start getting more narrow, leading background information to your research question. Take the question apart and list your variables

Step 5: You need to have a slide for each variable. Here you need to define and/or explain the importance of this variable. Something simple-you don't have to go into detail.

Step 6: You need to bridge the gap between the two variables. How are they connected?

Step 7: Before you leave the background slide, make sure you have led your audience to the research question.

Prevalence Study Example following the above steps.

1. Obesity and Lack of Exercise
2. Is there a relationship between BMI and how much exercise a person gets in one week?
3. General Slide
 - a. What does obesity and exercise look like in the community
4. Variables
 - a. BMI
 - b. Exercise
5. Define Variables
 - a. BMI
 - i. What is it
 - ii. How do we find it
 - iii. What does it tell us
 - iv. Community importance - support with statistics
 - b. Exercise
 - i. What is it
 - ii. Why is it important
 - iii. How do we do it
 - iv. Community importance - support with statistics
6. Bridge
 - a. How does exercise influence BMI - back up with evidence.
7. Connect community and research question