DEVELOPING A TOPIC

1. My general area of interest is ____________________________________________

2. I can narrow this general area of interest by limiting my paper to the following (individuals, families, institutions, occupations, classes, ethnic groups, communities, etc.)

   ____________________________________________

   ____________________________________________

3. Further narrowing by time span can be done by placing my research topic between the years ___________ to ____________.

4. A working title for my research project is

   ____________________________________________


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Now, further define your topic in preparation for your thesis statement:

1. *Name your topic:*
   I am writing about ____________________________________________

2. *State your indirect question (and thereby define the condition of your problem):*
   . . . because I am trying to *show you* who/how/why

   ____________________________________________

3. *State how your answer will help your reader understand something more important yet…. . . in order to *explain to you* how / why

   ____________________________________________