

Narrowing a Research Topic

Your goal in a research paper is to become an expert on a particular topic. Choose a topic that is of real interest to you as the entire process becomes more enjoyable. Often, a topic is too broad (large) to handle in a 5-8 page research paper. This is where narrowing your focus is important. Narrowing your topic will help you focus on an important aspect of a topic and will keep you from being overwhelmed by too much information.

Example:

General Topic: Environment

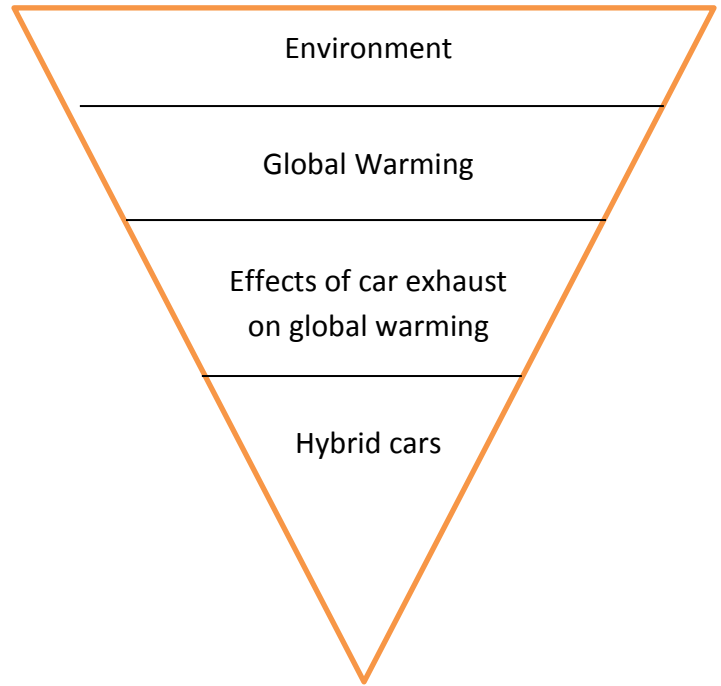
Narrower: Global Warming

Narrower: Effects of car exhaust on global warming

Specific: Hybrid cars

Possible Focus Questions:

- How do hybrid cars cut down on emissions?
- How quickly is this sector of car manufacturing growing?



You Try:

General Topic:

Narrower:

Narrower:

Specific:

Possible Focus Questions:

