

Name _____

Name: Mrs. Chapman

Date _____

Per. _____

The Research Paper

Far from being a dull academic task spent in a library, research can be an engaging discovery, full of surprises and rewards.

There will be many occasions both in your education and in your working life when you will have to find out more about a subject. For example, you may find yourself called upon to present written information on a topic that requires you to explore it in depth. Research is the tool writers use to discover more about any subject, and it can be rewarding and enjoyable.

A research paper is an essay based on information drawn from sources such as books, periodicals, broadcast and electronic media, and interviews with experts. Research reports are a valuable means for communicating information not only about literature and the sciences, but also about more practical matters. You can find research papers in newspapers, in magazines, in nonfiction books, on the Internet, on the news, and in documentaries. In the process of writing a research paper, a writer always expands a body of knowledge and, along the way, learns more about writing.

If you have questions please contact
me at 740-446-0544 between 8:00 a.m.
to 4:00 p.m.

Thanks,

Mrs. Chapman

P1-11-4

Works Cited

The medium of each source (print, Web, video, for example) is provided.

The Gerber anthology is cited twice below in shortened form.

Only one complete entry is needed.

This entry is cited by its title because its author is unnamed.

The date a Web or other digital source was accessed is included, but rarely the URL.

Brodsky, Joseph. "On Grief and Reason." *Homage to Robert Frost*. New York: Farrar, Straus, Giroux, 1996. 5-56. Print.

Frost, Robert. *Collected Poems, Prose, and Plays*. New York: The Library of America, 1995. Print.

Gerber, Philip, ed. *Critical Essays on Robert Frost*. Boston, Massachusetts: G.K. Hall, 1982. Print.

Heaney, Seamus. "Above the Brim." *Homage To Robert Frost*. New York: Farrar, Straus, Giroux, 1996. 61-88. Print.

"Meet the Press." Gerber 117-123.

Meyers, Jeffre. *Robert Frost: A Biography*. New York: Houghton Mifflin, 1996. Print.

Stafford, William. "The Terror in Robert Frost." *The New York Times* 18 Aug. 1974. *The New York Times on the Web*. Web. 23 June 2013.

Trachen, Isadore. "Robert Frost: Some Divisions in a Whole Man." Gerber 170-180.

Note: The above Works Cited page is in the format of the 7th edition of the MLA style guide.

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Sample Outline in an MLA Paper (Levi)

Levi i

Outline

- THESIS: Unless the risks of cell phones are shown to outweigh the benefits, we should not restrict their use in moving vehicles; instead, we should educate the public about the dangers of driving while phoning and prosecute irresponsible phone users under laws on negligent and reckless driving.
- I. Scientific studies haven't proved a link between use of cell phones and traffic accidents.
 - A. A study by Redelmeier and Tibshirani was not conclusive, as the researchers themselves have admitted.
 - B. Most states do not keep records on accidents caused by driver distractions.
 - C. In a survey of research on cell phones and driving, Cain and Burris report that results so far have been inconclusive.
 - II. The risks of using cell phones while driving should be weighed against the benefits.
 - A. At the Harvard Center for Risk Analysis, researchers found that the risks of driving while phoning were small compared with other driving risks.
 - B. There are safety, business, and personal benefits to using cell phones on the road.
 - III. We need to educate drivers on using cell phones responsibly and enforce laws on negligent and reckless driving.

Outline pages are numbered with small roman numerals.

Outline begins with thesis and uses standard format.

Outline is written in complete sentences.

(over)

Source: Diana Hacker (Boston: Bedford/St. Martin's, 2006).

This paper has been updated to follow the style guidelines in the *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers*, 7th ed. (2009).

Writer's name and page number are typed 1/4" from top of each page.

Levi ii

- A. Educating drivers can work.
- B. It is possible to enforce laws against negligent and reckless driving; in states that do not do an adequate job of enforcement, the public can lobby for improvement.