

# History Research Paper Example

## History Research Papers

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To write a good research paper, you must ask a good historical question.

**History** is the study of **change over time**. When somebody writes a history paper or book, she is **offering an interpretation** of how and why something changed over time.

So a historical question is one that asks how to interpret change over time.

Not every question about the past is a historical question. Historical questions address **change** and how to **interpret that change**. They must have boundaries of **time, place, and people**.

Bad: How did African-Americans react to World War Two?

Better: How did Southern African-Americans react to the draft in World War Two?

Best: How and why did lower class African-Americans from North and South Carolina respond to the draft from 1941-1945?

This last question focuses research on a **specific group** of people in a **specific place** during a **specific time**. Because there is a response over a period of time, it allows several answers, including how their response could have changed over the time period.

A good question is also one that is **significant**. You should be able to say why it is important to answer this question.

Your interpretation must be supported by the **primary sources**. You need **evidence** to support your interpretation. Different interpretations are possible, so why should the reader believe yours over someone else's?

To come up with a question, pick a narrow topic.

The easiest way to pick a topic – picking something general or really famous (e.g.: Civil War, Nazis, WWII) – will leave you with too broad of a topic. You need direction and focus; otherwise, you will have too much information or will get bored with what you already know. It is not that there is nothing new to learn about those kinds of topics, but if you cannot say exactly what new thing you want to learn about it, you are probably not as interested in it as you think you are. You must have an interest in an aspect of the topic or a desire to explore it from a different angle (e.g. the draft in WWII).

Try picking something that really interests you. Pick something you have questions about. Pick something you are willing to read a lot about.

Do not pick something that you have already made up your mind about, unless you are willing to change your mind based on the evidence.

**History research paper example** can serve as an invaluable resource for students and scholars alike, providing insights into the structure, argumentation, and methodologies utilized in historical research. Crafting a history research paper can often feel daunting, especially when it comes to understanding how to frame an argument or how to effectively use primary and secondary sources. This article will delve into what constitutes a strong history research paper example, exploring its components, structure, and the best practices to follow.

## Understanding the Purpose of a History Research

# Paper

The primary aim of a history research paper is to present a well-researched argument or analysis based on historical evidence. This type of paper allows students to engage with historical events, figures, and contexts critically. Here are some key elements that define the purpose of a history research paper:

- **Analysis:** A history research paper engages with historical sources to analyze events, trends, and patterns rather than merely summarizing them.
- **Argumentation:** It presents a clear thesis statement that outlines the paper's main argument, supported by evidence.
- **Research Skills:** Writing such a paper enhances the ability to locate, interpret, and synthesize information from various sources.
- **Critical Thinking:** It fosters critical thinking by encouraging students to question historical narratives and consider multiple perspectives.

## Components of a History Research Paper Example

A well-structured history research paper typically consists of several key components. Understanding these elements can help guide your writing process.

### 1. Title Page

The title page includes the title of your research paper, your name, the course name, your instructor's name, and the date. The title should reflect the main topic or argument of your paper.

### 2. Abstract

An abstract is a concise summary of your research paper, usually around 150-250 words. It should encapsulate the main argument, methodology, and conclusions, providing readers with a quick overview of your work.

### **3. Introduction**

The introduction sets the stage for your research paper. It should include:

- A hook to grab the reader's attention.
- Background information on the topic.
- A clear thesis statement that outlines the argument you will be making.

### **4. Literature Review**

In this section, you summarize existing research on your topic. This helps establish the context for your research and demonstrates how your work contributes to the field.

### **5. Methodology**

The methodology section describes how you conducted your research. This might include:

- Types of sources used (primary vs. secondary).
- Research methods (qualitative vs. quantitative).
- Any specific approaches or frameworks you applied.

### **6. Body Paragraphs**

The body of your paper is where you present your argument in detail. Each paragraph should focus on a single idea that supports your thesis. Consider the following structure:

- Topic Sentence: Introduce the main idea of the paragraph.
- Evidence: Provide historical evidence to support your claim, including quotes, statistics, and references.
- Analysis: Explain how the evidence relates to your thesis and contributes to your argument.
- Transition: Use transitional phrases to smoothly connect to the next paragraph.

### **7. Conclusion**

The conclusion summarizes your findings and reiterates the significance of your argument. It may also suggest areas for future research or implications of your findings.

## 8. References/Bibliography

Cite all sources used in your research paper following the required citation style (APA, MLA, Chicago, etc.). This not only gives credit to the original authors but also adds credibility to your work.

## Example of a History Research Paper

To illustrate the structure and components discussed, here is a simplified example of a history research paper topic and outline:

### Title:

The Impact of the Industrial Revolution on Urban Life in England

### Abstract:

This paper examines the transformative effects of the Industrial Revolution on urban life in England during the 18th and 19th centuries. By analyzing primary sources, including factory records and personal letters, alongside secondary literature, this research highlights both the advancements and challenges faced by urban populations. The findings suggest that while the Industrial Revolution spurred economic growth, it also led to significant social upheaval and environmental degradation.

### Introduction:

The Industrial Revolution marked a pivotal period in history, characterized by unprecedented technological advancements and urbanization. This paper argues that these changes fundamentally altered urban life in England, bringing both opportunities and challenges that shaped the future of the nation.

### Literature Review:

The literature surrounding the Industrial Revolution includes various perspectives, highlighting economic growth, social change, and environmental impacts. Scholars such as E.P. Thompson and Karl Marx have provided critical insights into the lives of the working class during this transformative era.

### Methodology:

This research employs a qualitative approach, utilizing primary sources from factory records and personal letters, supplemented by secondary analyses from

scholarly articles.

## Body Paragraphs:

1. **Economic Advancements:** Discuss the rise of factories and job opportunities.
2. **Social Challenges:** Analyze the poor living conditions and labor exploitation.
3. **Environmental Impact:** Explore the pollution and health issues arising from industrialization.

## Conclusion:

The Industrial Revolution was a double-edged sword for urban populations in England, fostering economic progress while simultaneously introducing severe social and environmental challenges. Future research should further explore the long-term effects of these changes on contemporary urban life.

## References:

- Thompson, E.P. (1963). *The Making of the English Working Class*. Vintage.
- Marx, K. (1867). *Capital: Critique of Political Economy*. Penguin Classics.

# Best Practices for Writing a History Research Paper

To ensure your history research paper is effective and well-received, consider the following best practices:

- **Start Early:** Allocate sufficient time for research, drafting, and revisions.
- **Stay Organized:** Keep track of your sources and notes to streamline the writing process.
- **Seek Feedback:** Share drafts with peers or instructors for constructive criticism.
- **Revise Thoroughly:** Edit your paper for clarity, coherence, and grammatical accuracy.

# Conclusion

A **history research paper example** serves as a blueprint for students aiming to craft their own papers. By understanding the components, structure, and methodologies involved in writing a strong history research paper, students can enhance their research skills and contribute meaningfully to the field of history. Whether you're exploring the Industrial Revolution or any other historical topic, applying these principles will help you create a compelling and informative research paper.

## Frequently Asked Questions

### **What is a good example of a history research paper topic?**

A good example of a history research paper topic is 'The Impact of the Industrial Revolution on European Society'.

### **How should I structure a history research paper?**

A typical structure includes an introduction, literature review, methodology, findings, discussion, and conclusion.

### **What are common primary sources used in history research papers?**

Common primary sources include letters, diaries, government documents, newspaper articles, and photographs.

### **What citation style is often used in history research papers?**

The Chicago Manual of Style is commonly used for history research papers, particularly for footnotes and bibliographies.

### **How can I find historical research papers for reference?**

You can find historical research papers through academic databases like JSTOR, Google Scholar, or your university library's resources.

### **What elements make a history research paper persuasive?**

A persuasive history research paper includes a clear thesis, strong evidence, logical reasoning, and addresses counterarguments.

# What is the importance of a literature review in a history research paper?

The literature review helps establish the context of your research, identifies gaps in existing knowledge, and shows how your work contributes to the field.

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## History Research Paper Example

### *Check or delete your Chrome browsing history*

Your History lists the pages you've visited on Chrome in the last 90 days. It doesn't store: If you're signed in to Chrome and sync your history, then your History also shows pages you've visited ...

### **Delete your activity - Computer - Google Account Help**

Delete your activity automatically You can automatically delete some of the activity in your Google Account. On your computer, go to your Google Account. At the left, click Data & privacy. Under ...

### Access & control activity in your account - Google Help

Under "History settings," click My Activity. To access your activity: Browse your activity, organized by day and time. To find specific activity, at the top, use the search bar and filters. Manage ...

### history herstory -

From Middle English, from Old French estoire, estorie ("chronicle, history, story") (French histoire), from Latin historia, from Ancient Greek ἱστορία (historía, "learning through research, narration ...

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Find your Google purchase history You can get a list of your charges and transactions for Google purchases and subscriptions. Find transactions for Google products Go to ...

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### *View or delete your YouTube search history - Google Help*

You can manage your search history by deleting individual searches or clearing or pausing search history. Learn more about your data in YouTube and managing your YouTube activity.

### Update billing and payments for YouTube TV

If you signed up for YouTube TV through a mobile carrier or internet provider, you'll be billed by them. Learn more about how integrated billing works. To review your payment history, follow ...

### **Find & manage your recent chats in Gemini Apps**

On your computer, go to [gemini.google.com](https://gemini.google.com). If your chats are hidden, at the top, click Menu . On the side panel, find your pinned and recent chats.

edge.....

History ..... WebAssistDatabase .....db .....  
Navicat ..... ..

### **Check or delete your Chrome browsing history**

Your History lists the pages you've visited on Chrome in the last 90 days. It doesn't store: If you're signed in to Chrome and ...

*Delete your activity - Computer - Google Account Help*

Delete your activity automatically You can automatically delete some of the activity in your Google Account. On your ...

### **Access & control activity in your account - Google Help**

Under "History settings," click My Activity. To access your activity: Browse your activity, organized by day and time. To ...

..... **history**..... **herstory** - ..

From Middle English, from Old French estoire, estorie ("chronicle, history, story") (French histoire), from Latin historia, ...

*Find your Google purchase history - Google Pay Help*

Find your Google purchase history You can get a list of your charges and transactions for Google purchases and ...

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