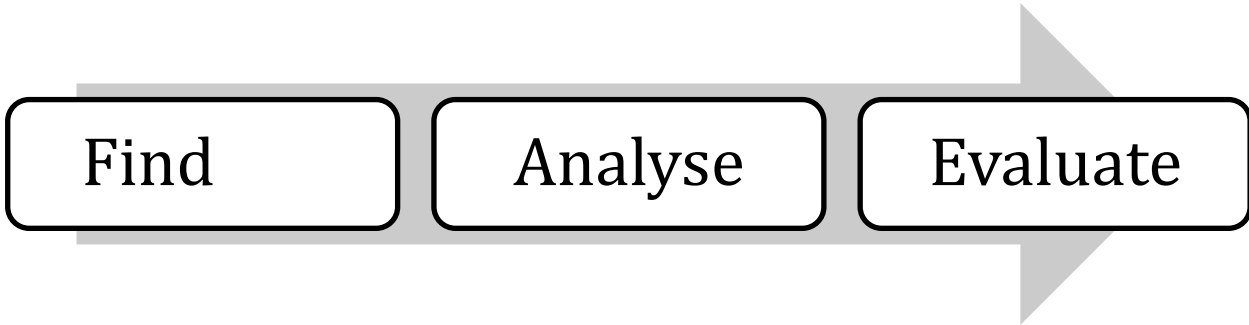


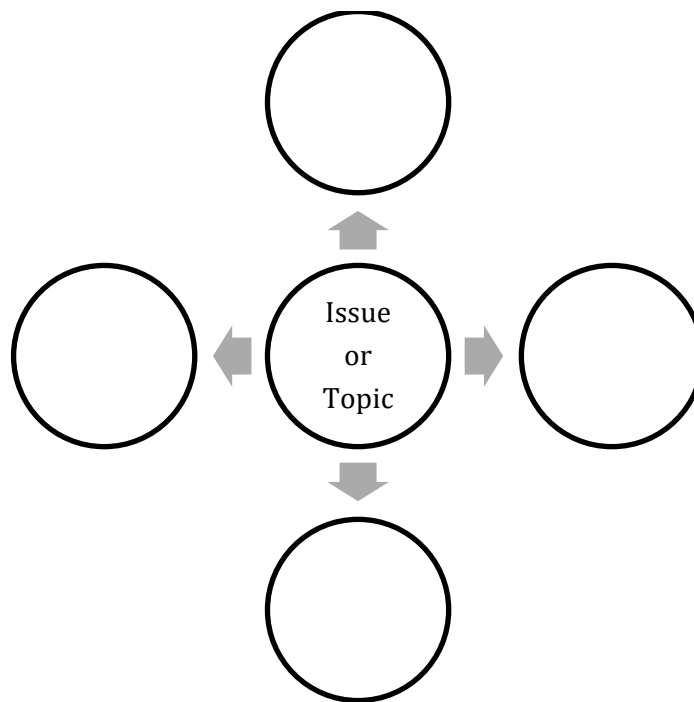
Advanced Project Guide

Name:

Group:



Brainstorming possible topics



Breaking down the topic into sections/themes

Topic chosen	
Question	
Countries/Scale where relevant	
A level teacher/subject link	

Action Planning	Target date	Date completed
Stage 1: Research Carrying out your primary and secondary research. Gathering information.		
Stage 2: Presentation Presenting your findings as a report. Writing up report		
Stage 3: Analysing your sources (primary and secondary)		
Stage 4: Conclusion Writing up your conclusion and answering your		
Stage 5: Evaluating Commenting on the strengths and weaknesses of your own performance		

How is it marked?

There are 8 learning outcomes, each marked out of 9.

Please indicate the marks allocated (0-9) for each of the 8 Learning Outcome and the total marks (0-72).

Learning Outcome	Centre marks	Moderator marks
LO1 Understand how to identify the focus and scope of an individual project	/9	/9
LO2 Be able to select and plan research methods, resources and materials	/9	/9
LO3 Be able to select, collate, reference and assess the credibility of information and numerical data	/9	/9
LO4 Be able to analyse the numerical data and display using digital techniques	/9	/9
LO5 Be able to synthesise, analyse and use information and viewpoints	/9	/9
LO6 Be able to produce and present an outcome	/9	/9
LO7 Be able to make judgements and draw conclusions	/9	/9
LO8 Be able to evaluate of own performance in managing an individual project	/9	/9
Total marks	/72	/72

Assessing the Individual Project

Where there is no evidence or work is not worthy of credit - 0 marks

Learning Outcomes	Performance Bands		
	Band 1 1 - 3	Band 2 4 - 6	Band 3 7 - 9
LO1 Understand how to identify the focus and scope of an individual project	Appropriate introduction identifying the focus and scope of the Individual Project. Relevant aims and objectives.	Detailed and reasoned introduction identifying the focus and scope of the Individual Project. Appropriate and realistic aims and objectives.	Detailed and well-reasoned introduction identifying an effective focus and scope for the Individual Project. Logical, appropriate and realistic aims and objectives.
LO2 Be able to select and plan research methods, resources and materials	A credible rationale describing relevant research methods, resources and materials to achieve the aims and objectives.	A detailed, reasoned and effective rationale describing appropriate research methods, resources and materials to achieve the aims and objectives.	A comprehensive, well-reasoned and effective rationale describing appropriate research methods, resources and materials to achieve the aims and objectives.
LO3 Be able to select, collate, reference and assess the credibility of information and numerical data	Evidence of appropriate research selecting, obtaining, collating and referencing relevant secondary and primary information. Detailed evaluation of the credibility of sources including currency, validity and reliability.	Detailed and effective research selecting, obtaining, collating and referencing appropriate secondary and primary information. Detailed and effective evaluation of the credibility of sources including currency, validity and reliability.	Detailed, effective and comprehensive research selecting, obtaining, collating and referencing appropriate, complex secondary and primary information. Detailed, effective and comprehensive evaluation of the credibility of sources including currency, validity and reliability.
LO4 Be able to analyse the numerical data and display using digital techniques	Evidence of appropriate analysis of numerical data. Relevant use of digital techniques to organise, store, manage and display numerical data. Mostly successful interpretation of numerical results.	Detailed and effective analysis of numerical data. Appropriate use of digital techniques to organise, store, manage and display numerical data. Successful interpretation of numerical results.	Detailed, effective and comprehensive analysis of numerical data. Appropriate and effective use of digital techniques to organise, store, manage and display numerical data. Effective interpretation of numerical results.

Where there is no evidence or work is not worthy of credit - 0 marks

Learning Outcomes	Performance Bands		
	Band 1 1 - 3	Band 2 4 - 6	Band 3 7 - 9
LO5 Be able to synthesise, analyse and use information and viewpoints	Appropriate understanding of context. Evidence of appropriate synthesis, analysis and use of information and viewpoints.	Detailed and effective understanding of context. Detailed and effective synthesis, analysis and use of information and viewpoints.	Detailed, comprehensive and effective understanding of context. Detailed, comprehensive and effective synthesis, analysis and use of information and viewpoints.
LO6 Be able to produce and present an outcome	Use of relevant skills and techniques when producing the outcome. Presentation of Individual Project outcome is fit for purpose and of adequate quality. Content and meaning communicated using straightforward language and terminology accurately and appropriately.	Effective use of appropriate skills and techniques when producing the outcome. Presentation of Individual Project outcome is appropriate and of good quality. Content and meaning communicated using language and terminology accurately and appropriately.	Effective use of appropriate and complex skills and techniques when producing the outcome. Presentation of Individual Project outcome is appropriate, effective and of outstanding quality. Content and meaning communicated using language and terminology accurately, appropriately and effectively.
LO7 Be able to make judgements and draw conclusions	Evidence of appropriate judgements made addressing the focus and scope of the Individual Project. Appropriate conclusions with links to original aims.	Detailed, relevant and reasoned judgements made addressing the focus and scope of the Individual Project. Detailed and valid conclusions with clear links to original aims.	Detailed, relevant and well-reasoned judgements made addressing the focus and scope of the Individual Project. Detailed, comprehensive and valid conclusions drawn with effective links to original aims.
LO8 Be able to evaluate of own performance in managing an individual project	Detailed evaluation of own performance including project management and problem solving processes. Mainly descriptive but with some justification and reasoning.	Detailed and effective evaluation of own performance including project management and problem solving processes. Clear and justified with mainly valid reasoning.	Detailed, comprehensive and effective evaluation of own performance including project management and problem solving processes. Effective and justified with valid reasoning.

Structure of Individual Project

Front Cover –Title, image, your name, candidate number and word count

Abstract – 100 word summary of the findings of the project (do this at the end)

Contents page

Introduction

Aims

Objectives

Rationale

Aim 1

Aim2

Aim 3

Conclusion

Reflection

Bibliography - Alphabetical list of all sources used in the project

Appendix

General

Project should be between 4,000 and 6,000 words

Same standard font throughout

Font 11 or 12

1.5 line spaced

Formal writing style (see guide)

Harvard (see guide)

Page numbers

Use images, tables, maps, diagrams and graphs at least once on each page

Use sub headings

Creating your Plan

Your plan should have four sections

- **Introduction** (the general context/background behind your investigation)
- **Aims** (what you intend to find out)
- **Objectives** (what you will actually research/do to meet your aims)
- **Rationale for Research Methods** (what research methods you will use, why you have chosen these ones and not others)

Take it step by step, use the format suggested and then write your own.

Introduction (the general context/background behind your investigation)

An example might be.... *'The Welsh Government introduced charging for plastic shopping bags three years ago. The 5p charge made in Wales goes towards other recycling and waste reduction projects. The number of plastic bags bought in Wales and therefore put into landfill has reduced as more people use their 'bags for life'. Single use plastic is a major cause of marine pollution.'*

Introduction



Aims and objective often start with statements such as...

...to establish ...to determine ...to uncover ...to predict as far as possible
...to critically assess ...to gather information ...to discover ...to find out ...to look at
...to analyse ...to investigate views of ...to evaluate ...to consider ...to identify
...to assess the extent ...to assess the effectiveness ...to find out what ...to see if

Aims (what you intend to find out)

An example might be....

I aim

- *To establish what my friends in Wrexham and Chester think about the policies on charging for plastic bags in Wales and England and if it has affected their shopping patterns.*
- *To find out exactly how serious the problems created by plastic bags in the Welsh and English environment really are and how they impact on society as a result (landfill, killing ocean wildlife, pollution from their manufacture, need for oil to make etc) and whether the charge is really necessary*
- *To devise recommendations for the Welsh Government about how to reduce the use of other single use plastic items such as straws.*

Your aims-

1.

2.

3.

Objectives (what you will actually research/do to meet your aims)

An example:

- *To uncover exactly how the money made from the 5p charge is used and if it is really improving the Welsh environment.*
- *To discover if the shopping patterns of my friends and family are affected by the 5p charge.*
- *To assess whether the cost of collecting the money from shops is worth the income from the charge.*
- *To establish exactly how much use of landfill space and oil production is avoided, wildlife is protected and pollution is avoided if we re-use our plastic bags.*
- *To find out what the opinions of English shop keepers are and whether they would be concerned about introducing the charge.*
- *To devise recommendations for the British government on whether the charge should be introduced in England.*

Your Objectives-

1a

1b

2a

2b

3a

3b

Rationale for your methodology

Identify research methods which will enable you to find the most useful and reliable information and complete your Individual Investigation effectively. Firstly consider **primary research** i.e. information which you find for yourself. Some of the most common primary research methods are described below.

Primary Research		
Source	Would this resource suit your investigation? Explain why	Use it? YES/NO
<p><u>Interview</u> – Use if you have access to only one or two people (e.g. school nurse, team coach, employer) with the expertise, time and who can understand and answer your questions.</p>		
<p><u>Questionnaire</u>– Use if you have access to lots of people (e.g. school mates, friends, team members, work mates) with the expertise and time and who can understand and answer your questions.</p>		
<p><u>Case Study</u>– Use if you only have very limited numbers of people who can help your investigation (headteachers, lottery winners) and you want to study their experience in a lot of depth.</p>		
<p><u>Scientific Experiment/report</u>– Use if you will be applying scientific principles to a piece of research that will then inform your investigation findings.</p>		

Primary and Secondary Sources		
Source	Would this resource suit your investigation? Explain why	Use it? YES/NO
<p><u>Photos/images/video clips-</u> Use if visual evidence provides useful information, coverage or perspectives on your topic (e.g. features of a building, map, local graffiti mural, YouTube clip, photograph or video clip of an event.)</p>		
<p><u>Professional Journals/interest publications</u> Use publications, newspapers or professional journals which provide useful information, coverage, viewpoints or perspectives on your topic. Many organisations (e.g. British Cycling Association, New Scientist, Electoral Commission) produce literature for their members to read (magazines, journals, papers) and you can find some specific to your topic area</p>		
<p><u>Written documents-</u> Written sources are very useful to inform your investigation. Relevant letters, diaries, photographs, eye-witness testimonies, official government documents can provide you with useful information, coverage, viewpoints or perspectives on your topic. (Eye-witness account, extract from personal diary, or statement by head of organisation or politician)</p>		
<p><u>Internet-</u> Can be useful for both general information and more specific data, coverage, viewpoints or perspectives on your topic. Internet sources need to be selected and used very carefully in conjunction with other sources.</p>		
<p><u>Numeracy :</u> You must be able to identify statistical sources to use in your project. Such as Office for National Statistics, United Nations, UEFA etc</p>	List the statistical sources that you will use in your project	

Rationale for Research Methods

For each objective, give a detailed description of what you plan to do.

Objective	What are you aiming to find out?	Possible primary sources	Possible secondary sources – list websites

Main Body – this will be the largest section

- a) Select and collate a variety of sources including both secondary and primary information and numerical data

- b) Analyse, present and interpret complex numerical data

- c) Reference sources of information as they are used

- d) Synthesise and analysis complex information and viewpoints

- e) Demonstrate an understanding of the topic by expressing own opinions and make judgements

Conclusion Summary

Aim	What did you find out? Which sources were the most useful to answer the question?

LO8: Be able to evaluate your own performance

This section can be presented as an Appendix at the end of the project and does not count as part of your word count.

You must reflect on each learning outcome and the skills that you have developed.

LO1: How successful were you at setting the aims and objectives?

LO2: What are the strengths and weaknesses of your research methods?

LO3: Assess the credibility of the information and numerical sources you selected

For at least **TWO** sources you used in your project discuss the usefulness and credibility

LO4: How successful were you at synthesising the information you collected?

LO5: What other statistical techniques could you have used? (Chi Squares, Location Quotient, Spearman's Rank, Standard Deviation etc). Could you have considered other viewpoints?

LO6: How successful were you at producing the report within the word count?

LO7: How well do you think you linked your aims to your conclusion?

LO8: Be able to evaluate your own performance

Reflect on the skills you have developed within this project:

Literacy

Numeracy

Digital Literacy

Critical Thinking and Problem Solving

Creativity and Innovation

Personal Effectiveness

Appendix

Any or all of the following may be included:

- a) Clean copy of questionnaire
- b) Table(s) of collated primary data from questionnaire, fieldwork, experiment, etc.
- c) Table(s) of secondary data
- d) Analysis of data
- e) Transcript of interview/ letter/ email