

Sparking Curiosity & Research Questions in the Archives through the Question Formulation Technique



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Question Formulation Technique (QFT)

The QFT is a process for facilitating question development and includes the following steps:

- 1. A Question Focus (QFocus)**
- 2. The Rules for Producing Questions**
- 3. Producing Questions**
- 4. Categorizing Questions**
- 5. Prioritizing Questions**
- 6. Next Steps**
- 7. Reflection**

How We've Modified for Archival Instruction

- 1. A Question Focus (QFocus)**
- 2. The Rules for Producing Questions**
- 3. Producing Questions**
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QFocus: Primary Source Exploration

Rules for Producing Questions

- Ask as many question as you can
- Do not stop to discuss, judge, or answer any questions
- Write down every question exactly as it is stated
- Change any statement into a question

Rules quoted from the Right Question Institute's "Steps of the Question Formulation Technique (QFT) & Video Guide."

rightquestion.org/resources/steps-of-the-question-formulation-technique-qft-video-guide/

Prioritizing Questions

- Review your list of questions
- Choose a question that you think could be an effective research question

Wrap-up & Questions

Citations

Please check out The Right Question Institute for additional information and materials:

Right Question Institute. (n.d.) Teach Students to Ask Their Own Questions. Retrieved from <http://rightquestion.org/education> and

Rothstein, D., & Santana, L. (2011). *Make Just One Change: Teach Students to Ask Their Own Questions*. Cambridge, Mass: Harvard Education Press.