

Developing a Literature Review

Pratt Institute

Getting Started

Step One: Decide on your areas of research

Step Two: Search for the literature



Finding Resources/Bibliography

Step Three: Find relevant books and articles:

Look specifically for these five things:

1. Claims, conclusions, and findings about the topic you are investigating
2. Definitions of terms
3. Calls for follow-up studies relevant to your topic
4. Gaps you notice in the literature
5. Disagreement about the ideas you are investigating

Telling a Story



Step Four: Code the literature

Determine the main themes.

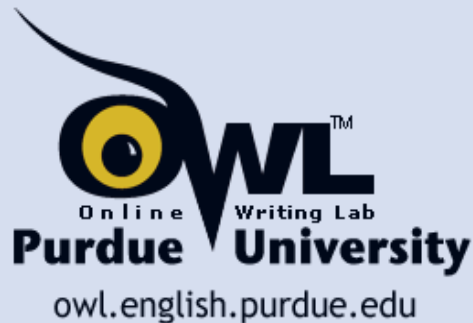
Step Five: Create An Outline

Step Six: Begin to Write Your Literature Review



Understanding Writing: The Rhetorical Situation

*Brought to you by the Purdue
University Online Writing Lab*



Research & Effective Writing

- KEY CONSIDERATIONS:
- How to use language effectively to persuade, inform, educate, or entertain
- Rhetorical Situation: The circumstances in which you communicate

Considering Context



The Writer-Researcher

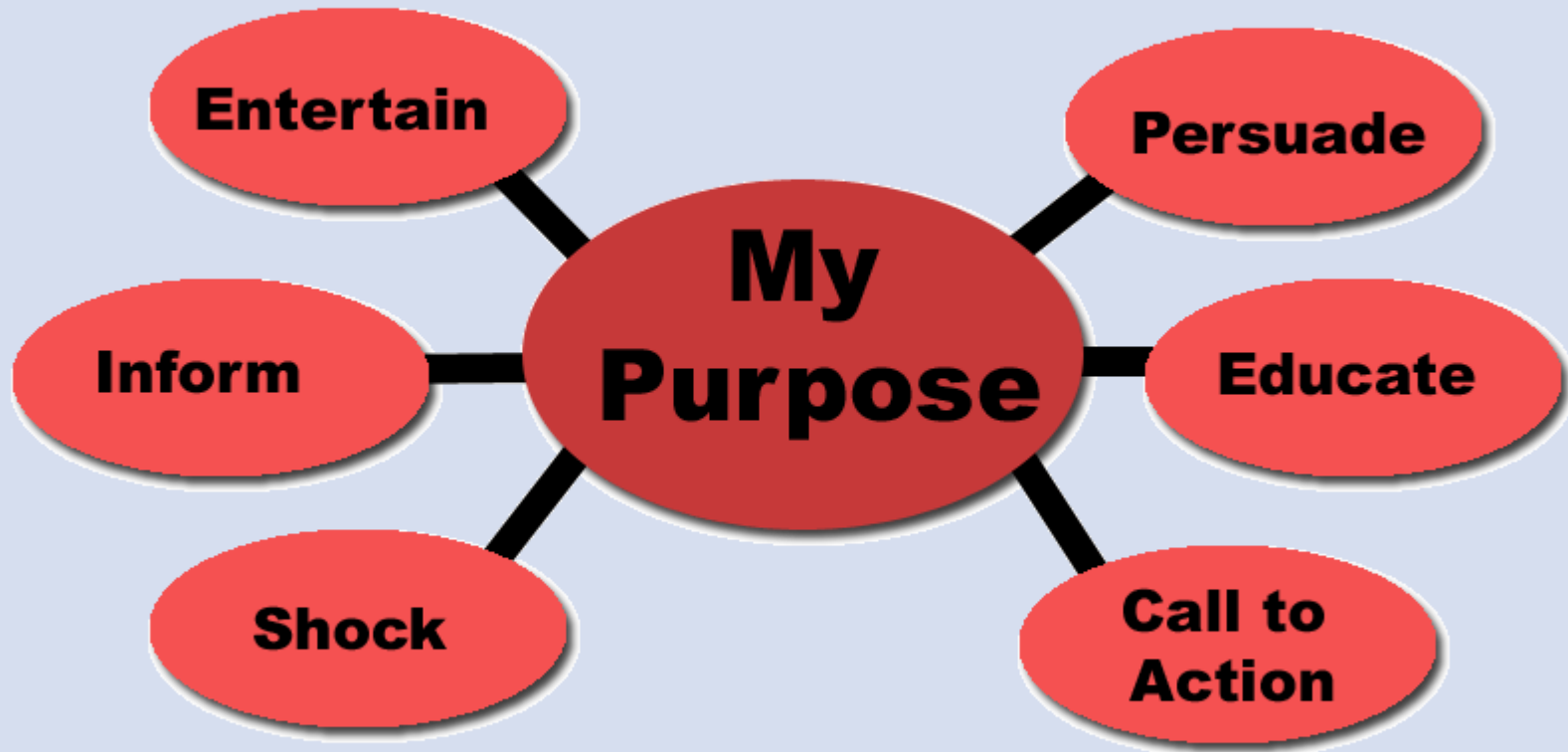
- Your culture, personal characteristics and interests affect what you write about and how you write it.



Considering Positionality

- Your age
- Your experiences
- Your gender
- Your location
- Your political beliefs
- Your parents and peers
- Your education

Telling a Good Story: Identifying Purpose



Audience: To Whom are you Writing?

- Many of the same factors which affect the writer also affect the audience
 - Age
 - Social class
 - Education
 - Past experience
 - Culture/subculture
 - Expectations



Writing about Research

- Category of writing: qualitative research
- Always consider the purpose and the needs/expectations of the projected audience.
- **Explore Your Favorite Kinds of Writing:** fiction, autobiographical story, news article, review, letter to the editor/editorial, rhetorical analysis, criticism, essay

Steps to Take

1. Research / Collect Resources
2. Draft an outline/mindmap
3. Create a thesis statement
4. Write the body of the text
5. Create an introduction that provides an overview of main points
6. Prepare a conclusion that summarizes your thoughts and ends with further questions/ideas

The End

