

GENERATING A RESEARCH IDEA

Brainstorming with your Group

Generating research ideas can be difficult. First consider psychology topics you find interesting, below are some quick prompts to get you started.

TOPIC	INTEREST?	TOPIC	INTEREST?
Abnormal Psychology		Development	
Eating disorders		Bullying	
Depression		Language acquisition	
Phobias		Media violence	
Borderline PD		Learning disabilities	
Seasonal affective disorder		Gender roles	
Schizophrenia		Child abuse	
Antisocial PD		Attachment	
Cognitive Psy Topics		Parenting styles	
False memories		Aging	
Attention span		Social/ Evo Psychology	
Perception		Prejudice/Discrimination	
Language		Social cognition	
Problem-solving		Person perception	
Judgment		Attitudes	
Comparative Psychology		Religion/Spirituality	
Animal welfare		Persuasion/Marketing	
Visitor effects on behavior		Attraction/Dating/Love	
Mating behavior		Nonverbal Comm.	
Observational Learning		Jealousy	
Training techniques		Prosocial behavior	
Personality		Leadership	
Group differences		Social cognition	
Personality Marking		Person perception	
Other		Attitudes	
		Social control and cults	
		Program Evaluation	
		Educational Program	
		Healthcare treatment	
		Sensation/ Perception	
		Olfaction sensitivity	
		Taste sensitivity	
		Haptic sensitivity	

Now consider some questions you might be interested in investigating with the topic you wrote in or that you check off. Are you interested in debunking common conceptions (perhaps misconceptions) within these areas? Do you have anecdotal experience that might lend itself to an interesting empirical question? Are there theories or existing 'dogma' that you question? Are the practical problems that need resolved (e.g., carpool lanes were established by an Applied Psychologist)?

YOUR PSYCHOLOGY PROJECT

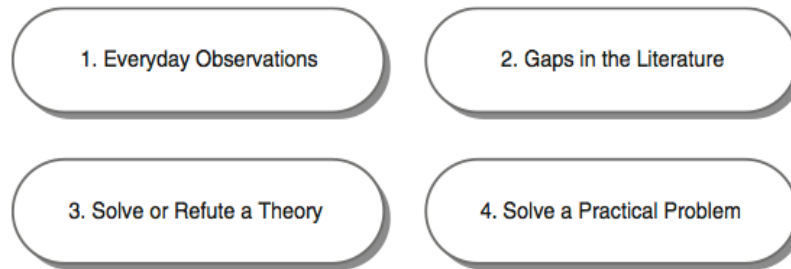


Figure Credit: Evans, J. (2007). Your Psychology Project, pp. 23

Based on your interest areas, generate at least five empirical questions:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

Are all of your constructs within these questions operationalized (i.e., testable)? If not, what constructs need to be defined?

Who all is in your group?

Name	Email	Telephone	Schedule Constraints?
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			