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**EXTENDED ESSAY – THE RESEARCH PROCESS**

Adapted from the IB Diploma Programme’s Extended Essay Guide: First Exams 2013 (p. 7 – 8, “the research process”)



Go back to stage 3, 2, or 1 and choose a new research question that can be answered.

Stage 1. Choose the approved Diploma Programme subject for the Extended Essay.

*1. a. Read the assessment criteria and the relevant subject guidance.*

Stage 2. Choose a topic.



Stage 5. Plan a structure (outline headings) for the essay.

Stage 4. Plan the investigation and writing process.

Stage 3. Formulate a well-focused research question.

Stage 6. Undertake some preparatory reading.

NO

*6. a. Is it possible to obtain the evidence needed in the time available?*

*4. b. Identify which system of academic referening you will use, appropriate to the subject of the essay*

N.B. At ISG, we use MLA format.

*4. a. Identify how and where you will gather material.*

*4. c. Set deadlines for yourself that will allow you to meet the school’s requirements.*

Go back to stage 4.

*5. a. This may change as the investigation develops, but it is useful to have a sense of direction.*

YES

Stage 7. Carry out the investigation.

*7. b. Students should be prepared for things to go wrong. Sometimes you may discover something later in the investigation that undermines what you thought had been established earlier on. If that happens, the investigation plan needs to be revised.*

*7. a. The material gathered should be assembled in a logical order, linked to the structure of the essay. Only then will you know whether you have enough evidence for each stage of the argument so that you can proceed to the next.*