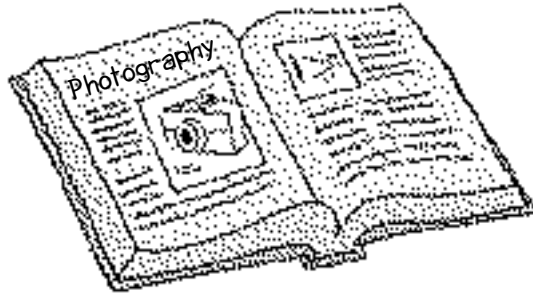


Prewriting Ideas

Use these prewriting ideas to help you find topics to write about. These ideas can also help you focus, explore, or narrow your topic.

- ▶ **Reading books, magazines, and newspapers** Look through printed materials for interesting articles and ideas. Note inventions, trends, new technologies, and discoveries you would like to know more about. List what you would like to know about one of those topics.



- ▶ **Listing interests** List things that interest you, such as hobbies, sports, games, art, music, or politics. Choose one topic to write about, and list questions you want to answer about it.
- ▶ **Brainstorming** Write the name of an idea, process, person, place, or thing that interests you. As quickly as possible, write what you do and do not know about the subject.
- ▶ **Talking and listening in groups** Take turns telling about interesting topics. Encourage listeners to ask questions.
- ▶ **Discussing** Circulate around the classroom, talking to various classmates. Discuss the topics you would like to research for a report, and get your classmates' ideas and questions about your topics.
- ▶ **Showing and telling** Bring to class an object or a picture of something you would like to research. Tell the class what information you plan to provide in your report, and ask for classmates' questions and suggestions.
- ▶ **Outlining** Write down a topic you would like to research. Below it, write in outline form some main points and subpoints you would cover.
- ▶ **Looking at art** Study paintings, drawings, photographs, or other artworks. List what you would like to know about an artist or an art form. Make notes about where you might find the information.

