

Initial Topic Analysis:

List your topic here: _____

If you have an initial article citation, list it here:

Brainstorm some initial vocabulary to use in searching:

Topical words:

Chemical substances:

Reaction types:

What sub-discipline of Chemistry does your topic fall into?

Background Research

Wikipedia

Using the vocabulary you brainstormed above, find at least three articles in Wikipedia related to your topic. At least one should be a chemical substance. List their titles here:

- 1)
- 2)
- 3)

Print out one page of the article related to a chemical substance and attach

Quickly review the references, notes, and related links at the bottom of each article. Mark articles you want to go back to with an asterisk.

Popular-level Periodical (Academic Search Complete)

Start in Academic Search Complete on the articles tab of the library home page.

Try several keyword and title searches using relevant words and phrases.

Copy below at least five useful SUBJECT HEADINGS

- from relevant records *or*
- from the Subject Thesaurus link on the left side of the results page:

- 1)
- 2)
- 3)
- 4)
- 5)

Do several searches BY SUBJECT using the above subject headings.

Which did you find provided better results in this database:

Subject Searching

Keyword Searching

Different students will have different answers here. For article searching in databases with full-text, try both approaches for best results.

Get back to one of your good sets of results.

On the left hand side, check the box to limit results to “magazines”

Adjust the search until you find some magazine articles related to your topic

Choose an article you think would be useful

Cite it here:

Article Title: _____

Article Author: _____

Periodical Title: _____

Volume: _____ Issue: _____ Pages: _____ Date: _____

Use article linker to determine access to that article

If it is available:

- In electronic form - print out the first page and attach it to this assignment
- In paper form – go get it and photocopy the first page and attach it to this assignment
- Not available – submit an interlibrary loan, print a copy of your ILL account page showing the submission and attach it to this assignment

Book or Book Chapter (BearCat and WorldCat)

Start in WorldCat (Library Home > WorldCat (FirstSearch))

Try several keyword and title searches using relevant words and phrases.

Copy below at least five useful SUBJECT HEADINGS from relevant items:

Notice that these may well be DIFFERENT from those you saw in article searching.

- 1)
- 2)
- 3)
- 4)
- 5)

Do several searches BY SUBJECT using the above subject headings.

Locate one book that is useful in its entirety or for which there is a useful chapter. Cite it here:

Book Title: _____

Book Author/Editor: _____

Publisher: _____

Publisher Location: _____

Date: _____

If relevant:

Subsection (e.g. Article/Chapter) Title: _____

Subsection (e.g. Article/Chapter) Author: _____

Vol #: _____ Pages: _____

How many libraries hold this item? _____

Are any of them SUNY libraries? _____

Now go to BearCat (Library Home > BearCat)

Do several searches BY SUBJECT using the above subject headings from WorldCat.

Do we own or have access in electronic form to any useful books/chapters that provide an overview for your topic?

No

Yes

(see next page for If No or If Yes)

If No: Go back to WorldCat and submit an InterLibrary Loan request for the item above.

If Yes:

Cite it here:

Book Title: _____

Book Author/Editor: _____

Publisher: _____

Publisher Location: _____

Date: _____

If relevant:

Subsection (e.g. Article/Chapter) Title: _____

Subsection (e.g. Article/Chapter) Author: _____

Vol #: _____ Pages: _____

Library Location and Call Number (if paper version): _____

If it is in paper, go check it out.

If it is electronic, print out a copy of the first page and attach it to this assignment.

Free Web (Chemistry Portals)

Using a Chemistry Portal, locate a content-rich (not link rich) free web source on your topic.

Print out the beginning of the page (one printed page) and attach it to this assignment.

What is the complete URL? _____

Describe the steps you took in searching that led you to this source