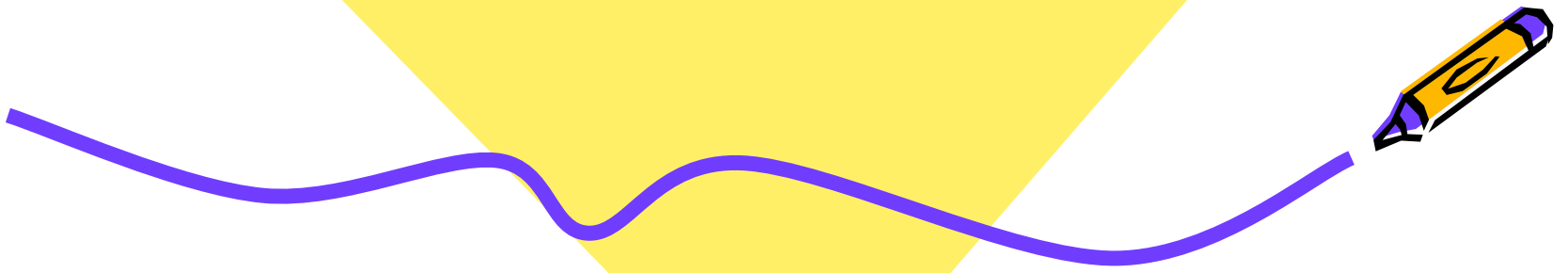




# Research Paper



# What is a research paper?



- A "research paper" is taking and combining "information you find by doing research" and "your own ideas" to prove a "thesis statement".
- Information + Ideas = Research



# What is a research paper?



- What is considered "my own ideas"?
  - Any "general" information
  - You MUST "cite" any information that has numbers
    - Dates (birth and death)
    - Statistics (% of free-throw)



# What is a research paper

continued..



## EXAMPLE

- Billy the Kid
  - Wild West outlaw (this we already know)
  - "was an orphan at the age of 15" (what we learn through research)

- **So we create a statement...**

Billy the Kid, a well known Wild West outlaw, most likely turned to violence after becoming an orphan at age 15 (Source, 12). After Billy's parents were...

(The statement above was "paraphrased" but we still "cited" the source.)



# How long does this have to be...

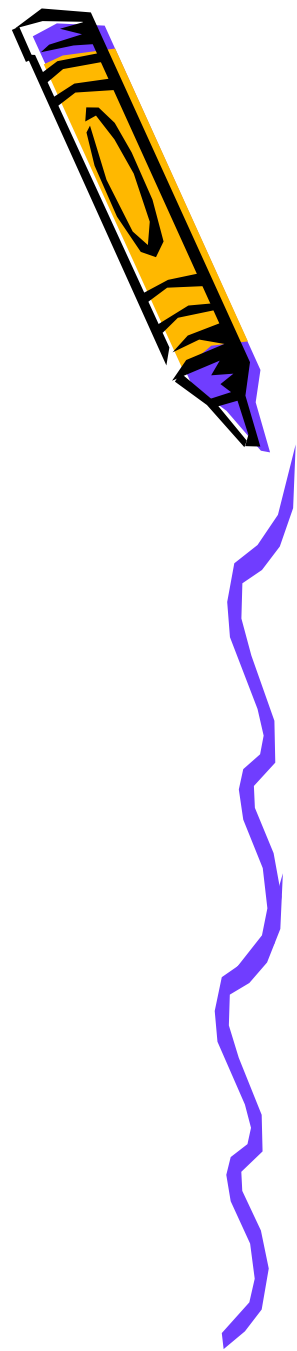


- Remember essays?
  - Essays are 5 paragraphs: 1<sup>st</sup> is the introductory, then 3 body paragraphs, and the last is the concluding.
- RESEARCH PAPERS ARE TO BE "Eight (CPA) or Ten (Pre-AP) PARAGRAPHS" :
  - 1<sup>st</sup> is the introductory
  - Then six or eight body paragraphs
  - The last is the conclusion



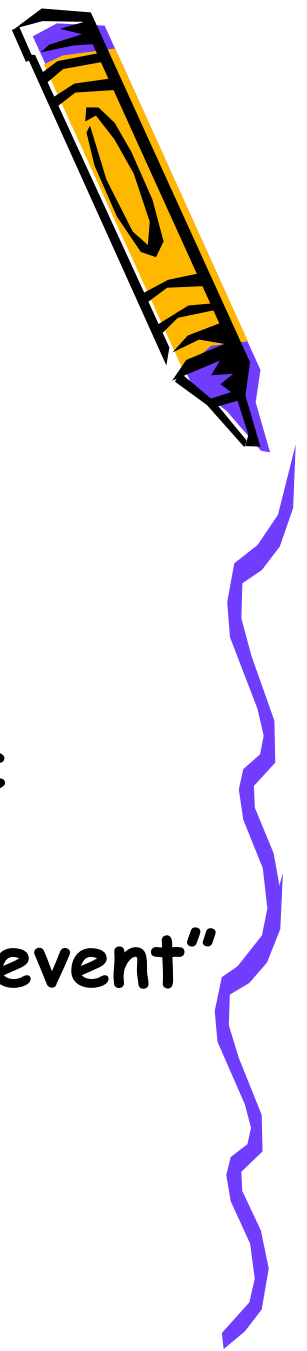
# What's up?

- Choosing a topic (a good one)
- Making a statement
- Questioning a topic



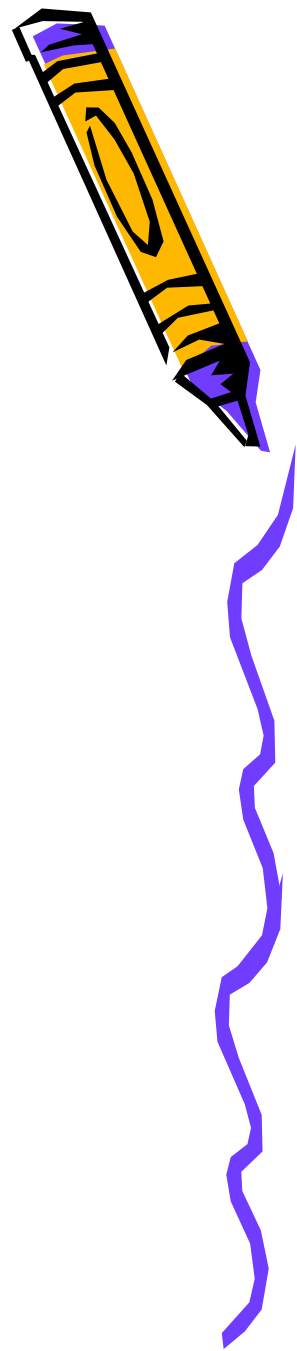
# Choosing A Topic

- See what is available
- Ask yourself, "Is my topic too contemporary?"
- NARROW your topic
  - "Football" should become a "specific player" or "team"
  - "WWII" should become a "specific event" or a "few battles"



## *To Kill a Mockingbird* Research Topics

- Scottsboro Boys Court Case
- "Black Tuesday"
- Great Depression/Herbert Hoover
- Great Depression/Franklin D. Roosevelt
- Segregation/racism of the 30's





# The "Thesis" Statement

- This is the "Main Idea" of your paper
- It becomes a "Focus" for your thoughts

\_\_\_\_\_ made/had  
a big impact on \_\_\_\_\_.

- Fill in the "Blanks" and get a "Thesis"



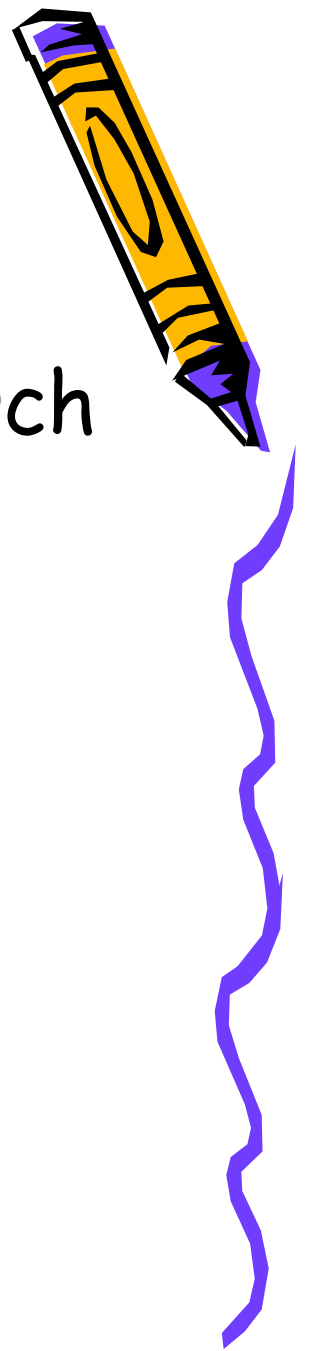
# Narrow your topic for your Thesis Statement



- "Football" is too BROAD a topic to cover for your "THESIS STATEMENT"
  - Football made/had a big impact on ?.
- BUT "Cam Newton" as a topic should be okay (if there are books available.)
  - Cam Newton made/had a big impact on football.



# The "Thesis Statement" Continued

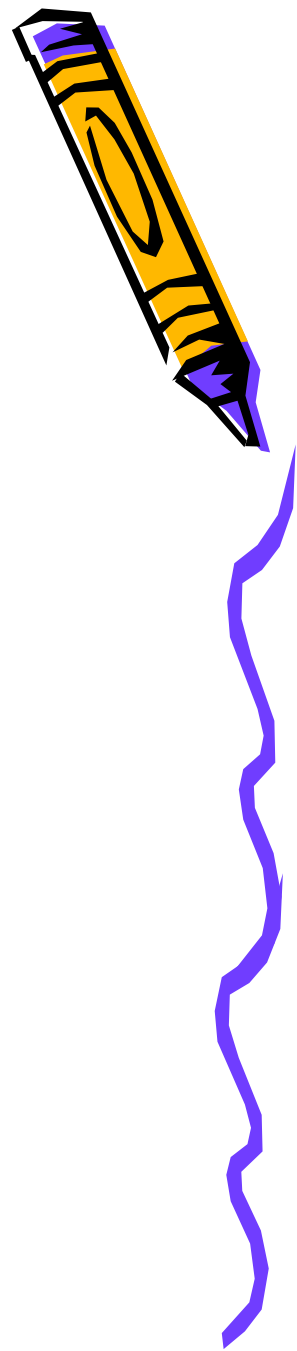


- Once you come up with a thesis statement you are ready to research
- You now need to **QUESTION** your topic



# Questioning Your Topic

- **Ask yourself...**
  - What do I **already** know?
  - What do I **want to learn** by doing research?
- **Organize your questions in to three subtopics**
- **(Examples)**
  - Youth, Adult, Death
  - Before, During, After



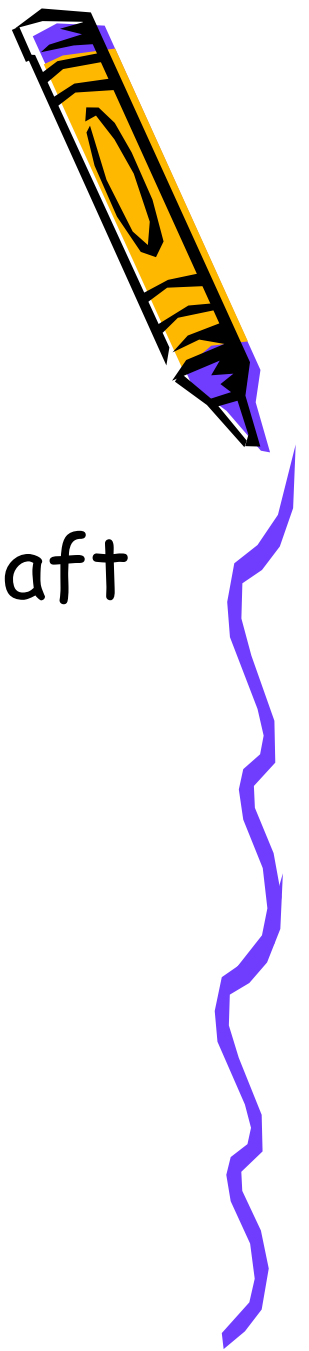
# Reliability on the Internet



- Reliable sources on the internet will always include an "author", a "date", and should always be "cross referenced"
- "Cross referenced" means you check the information with info from another web site.



# ...and then?



- Outlines
- Citing in Writing and the Rough Draft
- Works Cited
- Rough draft
- Final Production or Final Draft



# Outline



- The research paper "outline" should be easy to organize
- The outline for the body will be easy to write...it may be that the "Intro" and "Conclusion" will be more difficult
- The "Intro" and "Conclusion" are...  
**YOUR OWN WORDS...NO CITATIONS!!**



# Citing in Writing: What you Need

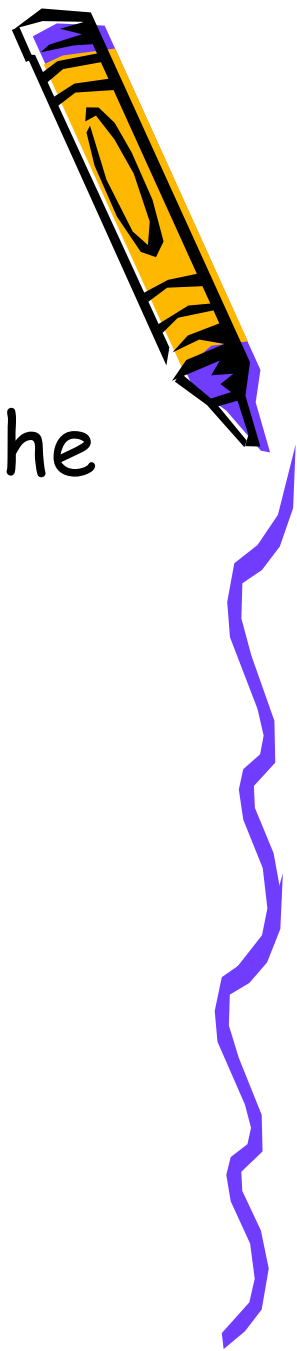


- What you need...
  - Note Cards
  - Source Cards
- From the "Note Cards" you need the "Direct Quote" and "page number"
- From the "Source Cards" you need the "Authors Last Name"





# Citing in Writing: What you Do



- Research is Citing. You must tell the "reader" where you get your information and we do this by "CITING" our source.
- The way we do this...



# Citing in Writing: The Way We Do This...



- You take the direct quote and include your own thoughts to create a sentence in your research paper...

Thomas Edison made many inventions in his lifetime. Some inventions are more famous than others. "The most famous of his inventions was an incandescent light bulb" (Jose, 89).



# The "WORKS CITED" Page



- Definition: The "sources" you "cited" in your research paper are written "collectively" on one page. This page is called the "Works Cited" page.

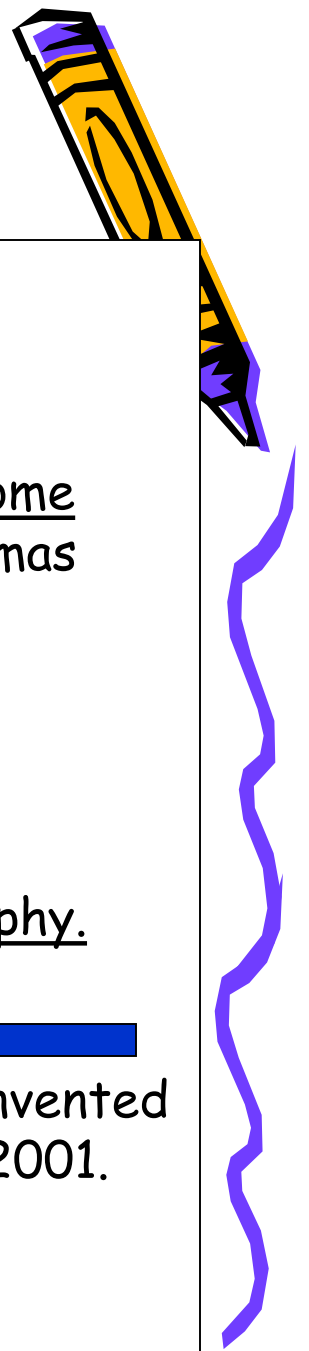
- **SO WHAT DO YOU DO?**

- Type all your source cards **IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER** (by the first item on the card usually the Author's Last name).

- **REMEMBER:** Indent ALL lines after the first.



# The "WORKS CITED" Page



- So...your "Works Cited" page should look like this...

- **ALPHABETICAL ORDER** by Author's last name
- **Single spaced** source information
- **Double space** between each source

Works Cited

**Beals**, Gerry. Thomas Edison's Home Page. 1999. <<http://www.thomasedison.com/>>

"Edison, Thomas." World Book Encyclopedia. 1992 ed.

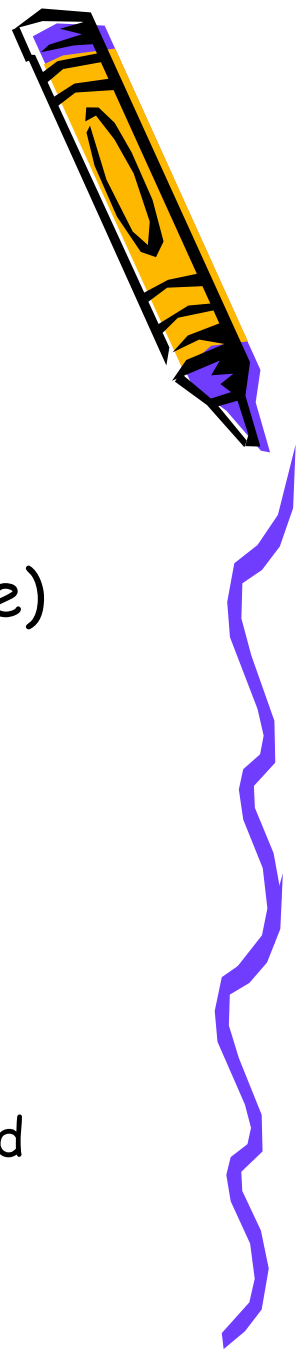
**Jose**, Matthew. Edison: A Biography. Portland: Wiley, 1992.

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Saunders, Fenella. "R&D: They Invented it." Discover Magazine. Oct 2001.



# Production: Format



- **Formatting Your Paper**

- Times New Roman (font)
- 12 Pt (size of font)
- Double Space (Format; Line Spacing; Double)
- 1 inch margins
- Title must be centered after MLA heading
- **NO BOLD**
- *NO ITALICS*
- **NO PICTURES**

- This is a "FORMAL" piece of writing and it should look like it



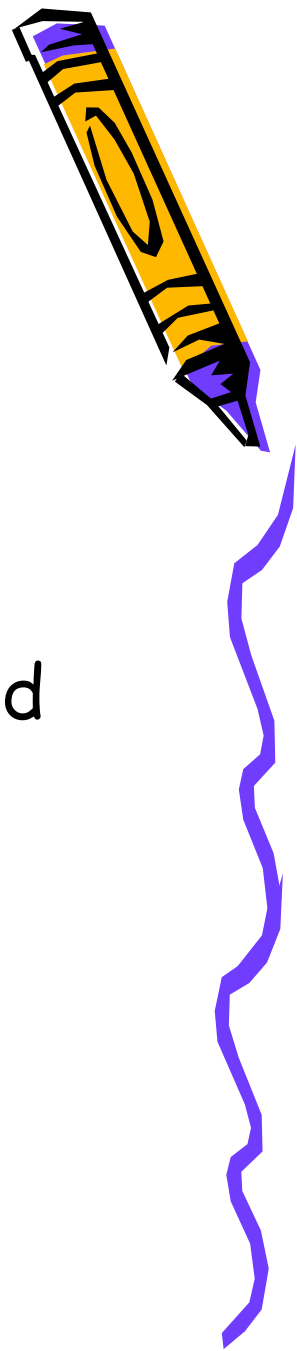
# Requirements



- MLA format
- Outline
- Rough draft
- Final copy
- Works Cited Page (three sources-CPA and four sources- Pre-AP)
  - Book (*To Kill a Mockingbird* is an option)
  - Online periodical (journal, magazine, newspaper, etc)
  - Student's choice (website)



# Timeline



- January 8- Submit topic
- January 19- Thesis due
- January 21- Outline due
- January 22- Rough draft in class
- January 26- Rough draft due/Revise and edit
- January 29- Type final copy
- February 3- Final draft due to [www.turnitin.com](http://www.turnitin.com) and hardcopy

