



Evidence-Gathering Activity: Flash Evidence

Task: Consider your topic. Then, quickly jot down every piece of support you can think of so you can see what you're working with and where gaps might be.

Instructions:

1. In the space below, jot down everything you can think of (without doing any research!) that supports your claim!

Write down as much as you can – quotes half-remembered, a statistic you think you saw somewhere, a scene from a text, a historical event, a personal observation. No stopping to verify, no citing, no self-censoring for quality. The rule is quantity and speed, same as a flash draft – get it out of the head and onto the page before the inner critic kills it.

If you do not have a claim yet, that's okay! You can just jot down the topic or inquiry question you are thinking about!

My Draft Claim/ Topic/ Inquiry Question:

Evidence:



2. Now, go through your list of evidence and label it by type. This key can help you:

S – statistic or data

Q – quote or textual evidence

P – primary source (document, speech, eyewitness account, artifact)

A – anecdote or personal experience

E – expert or authority claim

U – unsure / unverified, I don't know where this came from

3. Look for patterns. What kind of evidence do you have a lot of? What are you missing? What should you go looking for? What do you need to verify?

4. Based on the patterns you see, write your research shopping list.

- I need to find: _____ (type: ____)
- I need to find: _____ (type: ____)
- I need to verify or replace: _____

5. Use your research shopping list to fill out your collection of evidence.