Research for your final paper

March 3, 2008

A few words about reports

• Avoid direct quotation
• Answer the questions!!
• Do not give *direct* snapshots of the original article
• Proofread your paper before handing in

Steps to do research...

1. Brainstorm, narrow down ideas to a focal question
2. Write outline
3. Do Research
4. Write abstract
5. Expand outline
6. Write paper in an organized format
Brainstorming
- Find a focus in your topic
- Develop a question that suits your interests
- Associate key terms for your topic so you can find resources easier
- Bilingualism? Speech perception?

Write outline
- Develop an outline so you know what you plan to write
- Intro → body 1 → body 2 → body 3 → conclusion → future research
- This is a review paper, a thesis statement can still be developed.

Do research
- PsycInfo, PubMed, Web of Science, Google Scholar
- Glance through a few papers and decide if they are relevant
- 5-8 papers
- If you want to get a sense of the popular understanding of your topic, try Google
Write abstract

- 150 words
- Brief outline of what you are planning to write
- No need to include your suggested future research

Expand outline

- Associate your references to support each of your points in the body
- Read your papers critically, do not blindly take what you read for granted
- Criticize constructively

Write paper

- Organization is everything
- Elaborate and connect the dots