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Develop a List of Search Terms/Keywords

This organizer will help you identify search terms to use as you research. It also helps you identify what you already know about your topic, provides you with an opportunity to think about your topic in new ways, and identify gaps in your knowledge. Ultimately it will make your information search more effective and efficient. To complete the organizer follow these steps below.

1. Write your essential question on the lines below and underline the important concepts (nouns).

*Example: Should the American government monitor the cell phone activities of American citizens in its efforts to maintain national security?*

2. Write your supporting questions on the lines below and underline the important concepts (nouns).

*Examples: When did the government begin to monitor cell phone activities?*

 *Why did the government begin to monitor cell phone activities?*

 *What technology is used to monitor cell phones?*

 *Has monitoring cell phones proved effective in maintaining national security?*

 *What laws address cell phone privacy?*

(OVER)

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| Write the concepts (nouns) you underlined into the first line of the organizer.  | *American government* | *Cell phones* | *National Security* | *Technology* | *Privacy* |
| Write synonyms or alternative terms that would narrow or broaden your topic.  |  | cellular telephones | NSA | Electronic eavesdropping | Privacy laws |
|  |  | National Security Administration | Cell phone towers | Right to privacy |
|  |  | Law enforcement agencies | GPS  | Fourth Amendment |
|  |  | Warrants |  | Court Cases |
|  |  | Search and Seizure |  |  |
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