

To begin, you should use *multiple sources*. You should also use a *variety* of resources:

- Start by using general encyclopedias as a way to explore topics *before* you make your final choice (including multiple volume book sets like *World Book* as well as on-line encyclopedias like *Wikipedia* or *about.com*). IMPORTANT NOTE: You will *not* take notes on any general encyclopedia. You will not include a general encyclopedia in your List of Works Consulted. You may, on the other hand, take notes on specialized encyclopedias (like an encyclopedia of science, for example). If you are not sure, ask.
- Use a variety of secondary materials (books, magazines, newspapers, Internet articles, television shows, movies, etc.), but do not limit yourself to secondary materials alone.
- Also look for primary sources (letters, journals, maps, paintings, artifacts—things that existed at the time you are studying). You may have to use pictures of primary sources (a photocopy of a letter, for example).
- If possible with your topic, include one or two interviews with *experts* on the topic. Interviews may be conducted in person, over the telephone, by mail, or by email.