

EPQ Initial Reflection and Research Assignment: *Hard copy due Lesson 1, w/c 6th September*

Welcome to the EPQ! Your first assignment prioritises two key pillars of the qualification: reflecting on your own approach and undertaking academic research. You will **receive feedback** on this assignment: we expect you to learn from it! So, ensure you give it time and attention. **Hard copy due in class from 6th Sept. You may want to create a free account and access this [FutureLearn course](#) for an overview.**

1. Reflect: Examine your motivation: why do you want to do an EPQ?

Reflect on what is motivating you *now, at this early stage*: for each outcome below, score it from 0 to 5, where 5 is a very strong motivation. (You may also have an idea of your own we have not thought of.)

Your name: _____	How strong a motivation is this? Score from 0 to 5
Investigate/make something I really want to	
Become a more independent learner	
Learn how to carry out academic research	
Improve my writing skills	
Gain experience presenting to others	
Become better at learning how to learn	
<i>Other motivation:</i>	

Now choose **one** motivation from the above, and explain briefly why it is key motivation for *you, now*:

2. Research: Start to explore the kinds of resources that will help you develop your project

At this point, you may have only a vague idea what you will investigate. What matters most right now is your **commitment** to looking carefully at potential sources of information, and to **practise** making decisions about which ones are useful, and why. If you're unsure, for now, choose something you'd like to know more about. You will learn as much about the research process as much as your topic itself.

Identify a topic/idea: What do you want to investigate? / What are you hoping to produce?

Look for sources of information: During your EPQ, not all the sources you find will turn out to be useful. Here we want you to **start to look around** for sources that might turn out to be useful. So, make a list of three or four potential sources of information that *might* prove useful, and record details.

List 2 or 3 sources that *may* be useful: their **name, **type** (e.g. book, online journal, website) & **location****

1.

2.

3.

Select ONE source of information: As you read, you will identify which sources are, in fact, useful for you. Here, show us how you have selected **one** source from your list above, and say what information you intend to use from it. Crucially, you'll need to be able to **cite** it accurately in your report (provide specific details about where it comes from). At this stage, just include all the basic details we ask for.

Book/article section (author, title in full, date of publication, name of publisher; URL if applicable)

Where did you find this resource? (e.g. your book shelf, in library, recommendation, specific website)

What is the main argument of the resource? What is the main thing it says? What have you learned?

Why have you decided it is useful? (explain how you think it can help you with your project)

Identify 5 useful quotes from this resource, copying them out in full. For each, explain why it may help you with your topic. You must note page numbers (or similar; e.g. paragraph nos. from webpage).

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

Now, find out about the author to help you decide if they are reliable: record what you find below.

Explain why you trust this source (or, if you now decide you do not trust it, explain why you do not)

What might you read next? Why? (Need ideas? Check the references/bibliography of your source)

Hand in a hard copy of your completed assignment at your first EPQ lesson (w/c 5th September). **If this is a problem**, you must email work to Ms. Bradley by **Friday 2nd** lbradley@chartereastulwich.org.uk