

Lesson 6

Identifying Research Topic

CS 411
Thesis 1



What is a Research Topic?



A *research topic* is a specific area of interest that a researcher intends to investigate systematically.

It identifies:

- What will be studied
- Who will be involved
- Where the study will be conducted
- Why the study is important

Importance of Selecting the Right Research Topics:



1. It provides direction
2. It ensures relevance
3. It enhances motivation
4. It increases research impact
5. It supports career development



Characteristics of Good Research Topic:

1. Interesting
2. Relevant
3. Researchable
4. Feasible
5. Original
6. Ethical
7. Significant



Common Mistakes in Topic Selection:

1. Topic is too broad
2. Topic is too narrow
3. Lack of data availability
4. No practical significance

Choosing the subjects for research or project study:



In choosing the subject for your project study, there are several factors to consider, such as:

1. Area of interest
2. Nature and size of the problem
3. Economy
4. Capabilities and limitations
5. Uniqueness

Identifying Research Topics:

Some of the possible sources of ideas where you can choose your problem or project study are the following:

1. Brainstorming
2. Asking questions
3. Identifying needs and problems
4. Scanning books and videos
5. Reading about new and emerging technologies
6. Review of old proposals
7. Recommendations from previous project studies
8. Personal experiences



Guidelines in the Selection of Research Topic:



1. The research problem or topic must be chosen by the researcher himself.
2. It must be within the interest of the researcher
3. It must be within the specialization of the researcher.
4. It must be within the competence of the researcher to tackle.
5. It must be within the ability of the researcher to finance.
6. It is researchable and manageable.
7. It must contribute to the national development goals.



8. It must contribute to the fund of human knowledge.
9. It must show or pave the way for the solution of the problem.
10. It must not undermine the moral and spiritual values of the people.
11. It must not advocate any change in the present order of things by means of violence
12. There must be return of some kind to the researcher.



Sources of Research Topic:

1. Personal Experience
2. Academic Literature
3. Industry Trends
4. Government Priorities
5. Sustainable Development Goals

Checklist before finalizing your Research Topic:



- ☐ Is the topic aligned with my interests?
- ☐ Is the topic relevant to BSCS/BSIT?
- ☐ Is there sufficient literature available?
- ☐ Can data be collected within the timeframe?
- ☐ Does the topic address a real-world problem?
- ☐ Is it aligned with current technology trends?
- ☐ Does it contribute to SDGs and national priorities?
- ☐ Is the topic ethical and feasible?