

Using a Reading to Choose a Research Topic Worksheet

In this worksheet, we'll help you come up with some workable research questions about the use of technology in our everyday lives. See also [this resource](#) using "stasis theory" as a method to develop your research question.

Read Sherry Turkle's "[Can You Hear Me Now](http://www.forbes.com/forbes/2007/0507/176.html)" from Forbes magazine. (<http://www.forbes.com/forbes/2007/0507/176.html>) with the goal to find as many topics as you can from the article.

For example, one of Turkle's overall questions is: How is technology affecting us? We can use this question as a starting point. Let's think about each of the terms more deeply and come up with some specifics from the article.

How is **Technology** **Affecting** **Us**?

| Technology | Affecting (what) | Us |
|---|---|--|
| cell phones lap tops texting online dating social media Google Wikipedia Facebook Twitter | how we communicate bullying romantic relationships how students do research how young people develop their independence how we learn | adults adolescents teenagers children college students high school students |

Technology: (narrow down by type of technology): cell phones, lap tops, texting, online dating, Google, Wikipedia, Facebook, Twitter

Affecting what: how we communicate, bullying, relationships, how students do research, etc.

Us: adults, adolescents, teenagers, children, college students, high school students

Then we make new combinations which are narrower, more specific questions. For example:

- How are cell phones affecting teenager's development of independence from their parents?
- How are laptops in the classroom affecting how high school students learn?
- How has texting affected teenagers' romantic relationships?
- How has Google affected how college students do academic research?
- How has social media affected bullying among adolescents?

Following the model we presented above, choose a different question that comes up as you read this article and see how you might narrow it down.



Questions Derived from Turtle:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____
