**Finding a Topic**

**Finding a topic for a research essay is a four-step process:**

1. **Find** a subject that interests you

2. **Narrow** the subject into a topic to fit the assignment

3. **Formulate** a research question about your topic

4. **Formulate** a thesis statement that answers your research question

* Having a properly formulated research question will help you search for relevant information. Your research question might change as you find information. In this case, you will just need to revise your research question.
* I have provided you with a list of subjects. You need to choose which subject you want to investigate and narrow it down to a topic. You will also need to create a specific research question and eventually a thesis statement.

**Example:**

**1. Subject**: Bosnian War

**2. Topic**: the outcome of the Bosnian War

**3. Research Question**: How did the Bosnian War affect the relationship between Bosnian Serbs, Croats and Bosniaks?

**4. Thesis Statement**: The Bosnian War greatly damaged the fragile relationship between Bosnian Serbs, Croats and Bosniaks and remains a crucial reminder of humanity’s ability to commit atrocities.

**Your Turn**

1. Subject:

2. Topic:

3. Initial Research Question:

Revised Research Question:

4. Thesis Statement

(Remember a thesis = a topic + a comment)