

STUDENT WRITING CONTEST RESEARCH & PREPARATION TIPS

LINKS:

UNITED STATES HOLOCAUST
MEMORIAL MUSEUM

YAD VASHEM

WIKIPEDIA

ENCARTA

MODERN LANGUAGE
ASSOCIATION

WIKIPEDIA: ACADEMIC USE

INTERNET DETECTIVE ONLINE
TUTORIAL

There are many resources to use in preparing your essay – books, articles, photographs, maps, videos, etc. They may be available both in your library as books and/or online. Here are some suggestions:

1. Consider using up to five different sources – a combination of a books, articles and website material – when preparing your essay.
2. Always consult with your teacher and librarian to ensure that you are using the best possible materials.
3. Specialized Holocaust websites such as the **United States Holocaust Memorial Museum** and **Yad Vashem** are excellent resources. They include information and interpretation, photographs, videos, maps, and bibliographies and links to other credible sources.
4. General encyclopedic websites such as **Wikipedia** or **Encarta** or Encyclopedia Britannica (available through your library) are also places to start your research.
5. Wikipedia, which is the largest and most popular of these sites, is a good ‘stepping stone’ in your research. The entries provide you with background context to the topic you are exploring. As well,
 - Mine the Wiki entry for clues to keywords and word combinations to use in additional web searches.
 - Explore the links provided with each Wiki entry.
 - Use the list of books and articles at the end of the Wiki entry. The Wiki entry is based on these materials and the link will normally take you to that source or a librarian can help you get a copy of the material.
6. Your bibliography must cite sources appropriate to an academic paper (books, articles, websites such as the **United States Holocaust Memorial Museum**), according to the **Modern Language Association format**. Encyclopedias are not considered appropriate sources for your essay. The Wikipedia website offers tips on how to use information from its site in your formal essay. See **Wikipedia: Academic Use**
7. To footnote a website, please use the following format:
 - United States Holocaust Memorial Museum. “The Holocaust.” Holocaust Encyclopedia. <http://www.ushmm.org/wlc/en/index.php?ModuleId=10005143> (accessed September 8, 2006).
 - United States Holocaust Memorial Museum. “Citing Museum Resources in Research Papers.” <http://www.ushmm.org/research/library/information/citation.php> (accessed January 22, 2008).
8. If you feel you need some help in evaluating the material you find on the web, try out this **online tutorial** to learn some critical skills.