**The quick and easy guide to choosing your title**

**I**nve**S**tig**8**

**1. Chosing your subject**

* This should be relatively straightforward for most of you. You should chose the I&S subject that you have opted for at diploma level.
* Some of you may have two subects, in which case you can either just chose one of these subjects OR if you’re feeling adventurous, try to chose a topic that links the 2 subjects together.

**2. Chosing your theme**

* Once you have chosen your subject, look at the themes for this subjects on the matrix sheet. These have been suggested by your diploma teachers for next year.
* Use this opportunity to find out a little bit more about the subject – research around these themes, find out what areas they cover. You can spend some time doing this – don’t rush!
* Chose one that you think is the most interesting or that you would like to investigate further, try to think of an area where you can develop your knowledge but feel confident in writing about
* Write down the theme (e.g. “Crisis” for Business Management or “Human Relationships” for Psychology) in the ‘theme’ box of your matrix sheet.

**3. Chosing your area of focus**

* What attracted you to this theme? What are the interesting aspects of this. At the moment you can just write down key words or ideas in the ‘Specific areas of focus’ box of the matrix sheet.
* You can brainstorm different thoughts and ideas here, these are things that you can try to link together when framing your question

**4. Chosing your question**

Make the title of your article a question to give it more focus. Things to consider;

* What are you curious about?
* What do you disagree with and want to question?
* What do you agree with and want to support?
* What don’t you understand about something and want to find out more about?
* What are you angry or passionate about?
* What are other people angry or passionate about that you want to understand more?

Remember you are supposed to be investigating something, so your question should involve discussion, this will help you build a structure for your article, Remember also to choose something of interest to you.

Be ambitious! It is quite rare for you to be able to chose something of your own to work on, but as you come in to Diploma this will happen more. So use this opportunity to make the most of working on something that your teachers haven’t designed for you!

When you have thought through your question, write it down on your matrix sheet and show your teacher. They may suggest changes or additions, they may even refer you to another teacher in I&S to ask about your question.

**5. Teacher examples**

What would your teacher choose to do if they were doing the Investigate project? Here is a selection.

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| **Teacher** | **Theme** | **Focus Areas** | **Research Question** |
| Miss Hill | **Geography:** International Development | Charity, Social Justice, Inequality | “The signs of a charity can become a moral alibi and a substitute for social justice” Roland Barthes. If we lose sight of the real causes of social deprivation, does this mean that we stop looking for political solutions? |
| Mr Brewer | **Geography**: Population | International policy, Resource consumption, Population growth | How do resources influence international policy? |
| Mr Greaves | **Geography:** Environmnetal Sustainability | Economy vs Environment | Is it possible to protect the environment and still make economic progress? |
| Mr Shire | **History**: The Cold War | Command economies | To what extent did the USSR’s command economy prevent it from winning the cold war? |
| Miss Williams | **Geography**: Environment and Sustainability | Food production, ecological destructions | To what extent could food production be seen as the biggest environmental threat of the 21st Century? |
| Mr Burford | **Psychology**: Cognitive Perspective | Memory, music, influence | To what extent does music affect long term memory? |
| Miss Kelly | **Psychology**: Cognitive Perspective | Memory, Vascular Dimentia | In some cases of vascular dimentia, why do patients have a clear long term memory and little or no short term memory? |
| Miss Lee | **Geography**: Food Production | Plant based diet, environmental degradation | Is a plant based diet better for the environment? |
| Mr Santella | **History:** American Civil Rights | Influential people, Civil Rights, Muhhamad Ali | To what extent did Muhammad Ali influence American Civil Rights in the 1960’s and 1970’s? |
| Miss Kelly | **Geography**: Pollution | Are we making a mess of the planet? | How can I help to make Hong Kong a more environmentally aware place? |
| Mr Chong | **Business Management:** |  | Are Cathay Pacific’s strategies effective in responding to changes in the global business environment? |
| Mr Lai | **Economics:** | Government intervention in markets | How will the proposed reduction in tax waivers for electric cars in Hong Kong impact the demand for eco-friendly vehicles in the city? |