Brainstorm Search Words for Your Research Topic

1. State your initial research question/topic. (It may evolve as your research evolves.)
   Ex: Should football be banned from school sports programs because of concussion dangers?

2. Identify the main concepts (note: you may have more or fewer concepts depending on your topic)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CONCEPT EX:</th>
<th>CONCEPT #1</th>
<th>CONCEPT #2</th>
<th>CONCEPT #3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ex: Head injuries</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3. Brainstorm additional search words

   Example:

   **Brainstorm**
   - synonyms
   - related terms
   - broader ideas (in case your topic is too narrow)
   - narrower ideas (in case your topic is too broad)
   - alternate spellings
   - abbreviations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Concussions</th>
<th>Head trauma</th>
<th>Brain injuries</th>
<th>Sports injuries</th>
<th>Football &amp; youth</th>
<th>Post-concussion syndrome</th>
<th>Student athletes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>