

## Sample Chat #1: Generating Questions and Search Terms



**You**

Can you help me generate research questions about the British Empire?



**ChatGPT**

Certainly! Here are some research questions related to the British Empire:

1. How did the British Empire impact the economic development of its colonies during the 19th and 20th centuries?
2. What role did trade and commerce play in shaping the expansion and maintenance of the British Empire?
3. To what extent did the British Empire contribute to the spread of cultural, political, and economic ideas across its colonies?
4. How did the British Empire influence the social structures and dynamics in its colonies, and what were the long-term consequences?
5. What were the economic, political, and social motivations behind the colonization of specific regions by the British Empire?

**S You**

I'm going to use the first question. What search terms should I use?

 **ChatGPT**

To explore the first research question, "How did the British Empire impact the economic development of its colonies during the 19th and 20th centuries?" you can use a combination of the following search terms:

1. British Empire
2. Colonial economics
3. Economic impact of British colonization
4. Imperialism and economic development
5. Trade and commerce in British colonies
6. Economic policies of the British Empire
7. Colonial exploitation and economic consequences
8. Colonialism and economic inequality
9. Economic legacy of the British Empire
10. Economic changes in colonial territories

You can use these terms in various combinations to search in academic databases, library catalogs, and online repositories to find relevant literature, articles, and historical data related to the economic impact of the British Empire on its colonies during the specified time period. Adjust the search terms as needed based on the specific nuances of your research.

 **You**

Develop a research plan based on the following criteria: I'm writing a 10-page undergraduate essay for a world history course and I can only use scholarly sources. My research question is "How did the British Empire impact the economic development of its colonies during the 19th and 20th centuries?"



 **ChatGPT**

Certainly! Here's a research plan tailored to your criteria for a 10-page undergraduate essay on the impact of the British Empire on the economic development of its colonies during the 19th and 20th centuries:

**Research Plan:**

1. **Define Key Concepts:**

- Clearly define key concepts such as "economic development," "British Empire," and "colonies" to establish a solid foundation for your research.

2. **Conduct Preliminary Research:**

- Begin with a preliminary search on academic databases like JSTOR, Google Scholar, and your university library to identify scholarly articles and books related to your research question.

3. **Refine Research Question:**

- Refine and narrow down your research question if needed, ensuring it is specific and manageable within the scope of a 10-page essay.

4. **Create a Working Thesis:**

- Develop a working thesis statement that articulates the main argument or perspective you aim to convey in your essay.

5. **Literature Review:**

- Conduct a comprehensive literature review on the economic impact of the British Empire on its colonies during the 19th and 20th centuries.
- Identify key themes, debates, and gaps in existing scholarship.

6. **Identify Key Scholars:**

- Identify key scholars and historians who have contributed significantly to the field. Look for their works as primary sources for your research.

7. **Select Scholarly Sources:**
  - Choose scholarly sources, including peer-reviewed articles, books, and primary documents that contribute to your understanding of the topic.
  - Aim for a balanced representation of perspectives and methodologies.
8. **Create an Annotated Bibliography:**
  - Develop an annotated bibliography for each selected source, summarizing the main arguments, methodologies, and relevance to your research.
9. **Organize Sources Thematically:**
  - Group your sources thematically to facilitate the organization of your essay. This can help identify trends, patterns, or contradictions in the literature.
10. **Outline the Essay:**
  - Create a detailed outline for your 10-page essay, including sections for the introduction, literature review, methodology (if applicable), analysis, and conclusion.
11. **Methodology (if applicable):**
  - Clarify the methodology you will use for your analysis. For a historical essay, this may involve a qualitative analysis of historical documents, case studies, or a comparative approach.
12. **Data Analysis (if applicable):**
  - Detail how you will analyze data to support your arguments. This could include statistical data, graphs, or qualitative analysis.
13. **Ethical Considerations:**
  - Identify any ethical considerations related to your research, such as representation, cultural sensitivity, or potential biases, and outline how you will address them.
14. **Timeline:**
  - Develop a realistic timeline for completing each stage of your research, including literature review, data collection (if applicable), analysis, and writing.

Remember to adapt this plan based on any specific guidelines or requirements provided by your instructor. If you have questions or need further guidance at any stage, feel free to ask!

