

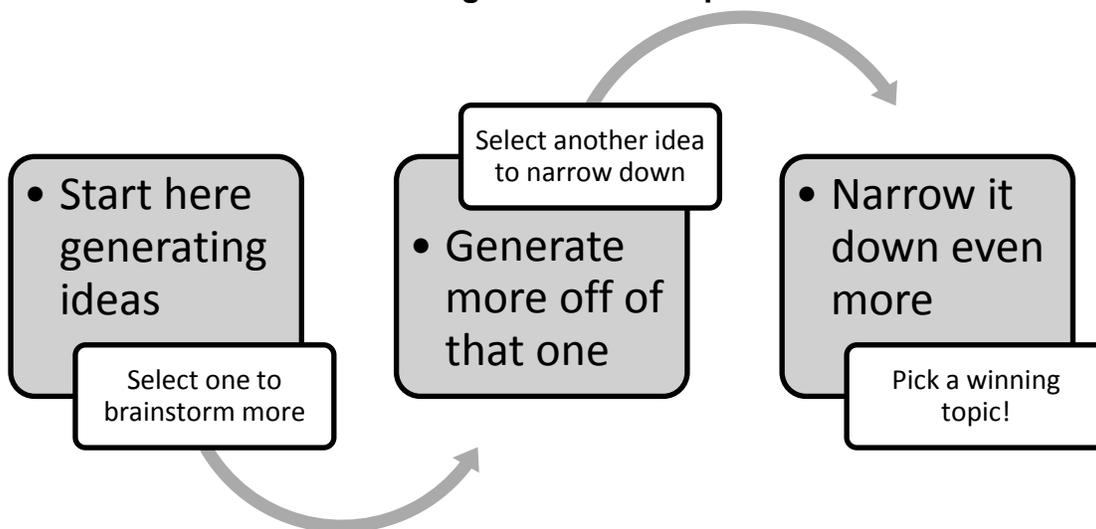


Research Topic Framing

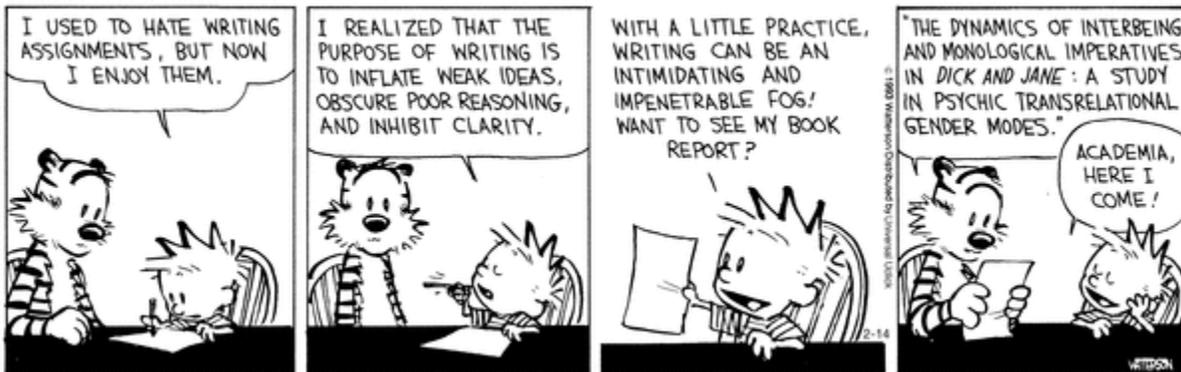
Identifying a Topic

- Look at the writing prompt
 - Ex: Analyze an article about Facebook and professional online etiquette / networking
- Analyze your personal Interests
 - Ex: Author's analysis of the problems of uploading personal photos onto Facebook
- Explore your personal experiences
 - Ex: A friend was reprimanded / fired for uploading unprofessional photos
- Think about the topic broadly
 - Ex: An aspect of how Facebook affects professional online etiquette / networking

Consider Doing Your Own "Topic Cross"



Try Not to Be like Calvin...





Ask the Right Questions

Always ask yourself if your topic is focused, debatable, and significant?

Robust Beginnings for a Research Question

What is the nature of
What are the functions of
What are the mechanisms by which
How do ... perceive
What factors affect
What strategies are used
How do ... respond

How do affect
What are the effects of
What is the relationship between
How are ... defined
How do ... differ
Under what conditions do

(From: Foss, S. K., & Waters, W. (2007). *Destination dissertation: A traveler's guide to a done dissertation*. New York, NY: Rowman & Littlefield.)

Narrowing and Developing an Argument

Use the example below to model the progression from a broad topic to a specific research question and thesis statement.

