

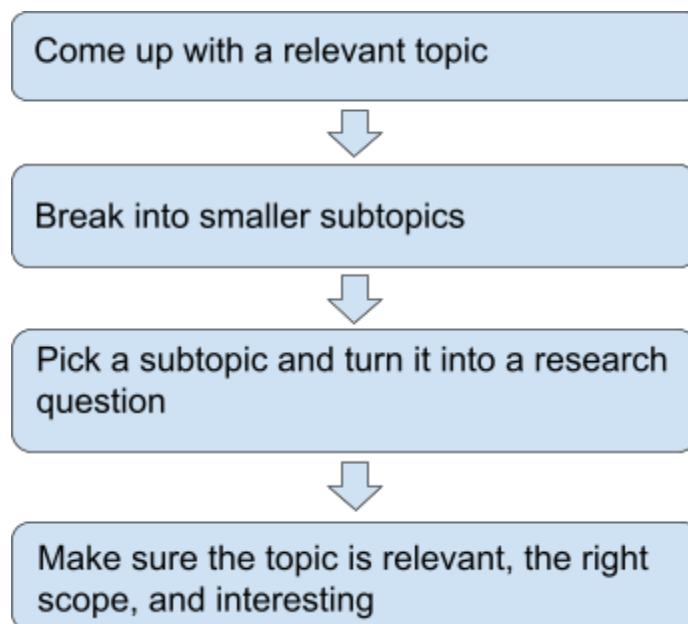
# Topic development and keywords

Coming up with a research topic for an essay or a school assignment is perhaps the **most difficult** part of the research process. Most of the students that come to the library for help with their topic do so because they try to do their research using a broad, vague, or just undeveloped topic, and few or no keywords or key concepts, and thus predictably fail.

Developing a topic is almost never easy, but if we approach it as a process, where we break the task into smaller steps, we can make it easier on us.

Here's the process we will follow to develop a research topic, we will:

1. Come up with an initial **broad topic** related to the class.
2. Break down the broad topic into related **subtopics**.
3. Pick one of the subtopics and turn it into a developed topic in the form of a **research question**.
4. Review our research question to make sure it is relevant, the right scope, and interesting.



The best way to explain the process above is by using a simple example.

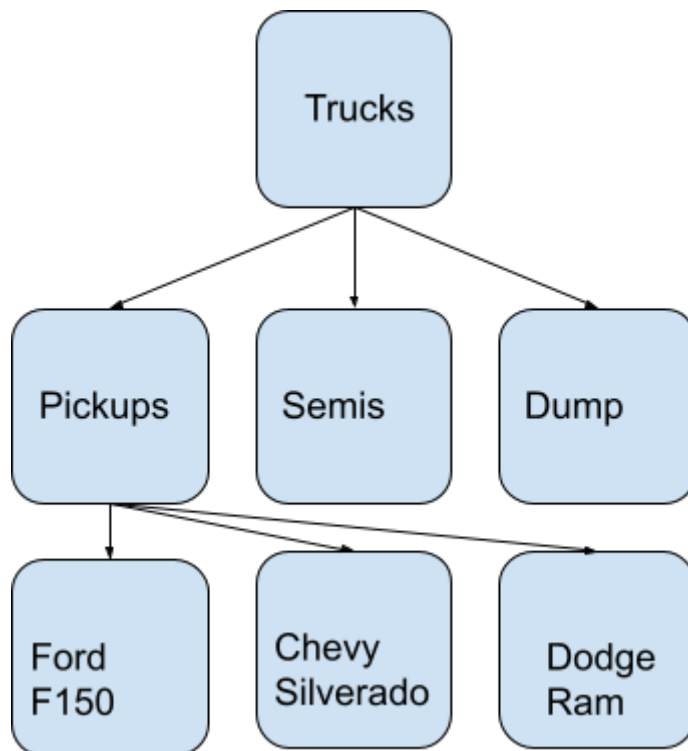
## Developing a topic and key concepts: an example

Suppose I am taking an automotive technology class and the final exam is a term paper on a topic of my choice. I then think about how much I like trucks and tell my instructor I will

write an essay about them. Within automotive technology, trucks are a very broad **topic**. At this point I am at **step one** in the process.

Many students run into problems because it is at this point that they start looking for books and articles without developing their topic further. The problem is that the topic, in this case trucks, is very broad. There are so many brands, sizes, styles, types, and uses for trucks that just describing what a truck is would take the bulk of the paper, even more.

Instead, I continue to **step two**, I break up the bigger “trucks” topic into smaller **subtopics**. Within trucks we have pickups, semis, dump trucks, fire trucks, etc. From here I will take the “pickups” subtopic and break it down into models, for example. I will have the Chevy Silverado, the Dodge Ram, and the Ford F150. The process of breaking a broad topic into more specific subtopics is shown below:



Here I will pick the Ford F150.

I could continue breaking the subtopic further by trim, fuel type, usage, model year, even individual components, like the engine or transmission. depending on what I want to talk about, but instead I will pick the Ford F150 as a topic and turn it into a **research question**. This is **step three**.

At this point, my research question could be:

*How did the Ford F150 pickup truck come to be?*

Or

*I want to write an essay about the history of the Ford F-150 pickup truck.*

Finally, I will make sure the topic is **relevant to the class, has the right scope, and most importantly, is interesting**. This is **step four**.

Since this is an automotive technology class, writing an essay about the Ford F150 will obviously be relevant, its scope is good enough to fill an average term paper with good information, and most importantly, this is a topic I actually find interesting.

Once I have my developed topic and my research question, the next step is to get some **basic information** on my topic, like **key concepts** and **keywords**. I can find this information in **encyclopedias** and **dictionaries**.

## Exercise

Go to Wikipedia [www.wikipedia.org](http://www.wikipedia.org) and type “Ford F-150” in the search field. Before clicking the search button, look at the drop down suggested terms and click “Ford F-Series”.



Once in the wikipedia page for the Ford F-Series, go over it and find basic information like the first model year, body types, US sales, etc.

Wikipedia - Ford F-Series

en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ford\_F-Series

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## Ford F-Series

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia  
(Redirected from **Ford F Series**)

*For the 1999–present F-250 and higher models, see **Ford Super Duty**.  
\*F150\* redirects here. For other uses, see **F150 (disambiguation)**.  
\*Ford F1\* redirects here. For Ford factory Formula One racing efforts, see **Stewart Grand Prix**.*

**This article possibly contains original research.** Please improve it by verifying the claims made and adding inline citations. Statements consisting only of original research should be removed. (September 2020) (Learn how and when to remove this template message)

The **Ford F-Series** is a series of **light-duty trucks** marketed and manufactured by **Ford** since the 1948 model year. Slotted above the **Ford Ranger** in the Ford truck model range, the F-Series is marketed as a range of full-sized pickup trucks.<sup>[1]</sup> Alongside the F-150 (introduced in 1975), the F-Series also includes the **Super Duty** series (introduced in 1999), which includes the heavier-duty F-250 through F-450 pickups, F-450/F-550 chassis cabs, and F-600/F-650/F-750 Class 6-8 commercial trucks. The most popular version of the model line is the F-150 pickup truck, currently in its 14th generation. From 1953 to 1985, the entry-level F-series pickup was the ½ ton F-100.

The F-Series trucks have been developed into a wide range of design configurations during their production run. Alongside medium-duty trucks and "Big Job" conventional trucks (the forerunners of the **Ford L-Series**), the model line has been sold as a **chassis-cab truck** and a panel van (a predecessor of the **Ford E-Series**). The F-Series has also served as the basis for multiple full-sized Ford SUVs, including the **Ford Bronco**, **Ford Expedition/Lincoln Navigator**, and **Ford Excursion**. The F-Series has been marketed by its three North American brands, as Mercury sold the model line as the **Mercury M-Series** in Canada from 1948 to 1968; Lincoln sold the F-Series during the 2000s as the **Lincoln Blackwood** and the later **Lincoln Mark LT**.

Since 1977, the F-Series has remained the best-selling pickup truck line in the United States; it has been the highest-selling vehicle overall since 1981.<sup>[2][3]</sup> The F-Series is the best-selling vehicle in Canada for over fifty years.<sup>[4][5][6]</sup> As of the 2018 model year, the F-Series generated \$41 billion in annual revenue for Ford.<sup>[7]</sup> By January 2022, the F-Series models have been sold 40 million units.<sup>[8]</sup> Currently, Ford manufactures the F-Series in four facilities in the United States.

**Contents** [hide]

- 1 First generation (1948–1952)
- 2 Second generation (1953–1956)
- 3 Third generation (1957–1960)

**Ford F-Series**

2018 Ford F-150

**Overview**

<b>Manufacturer</b>	<b>Ford</b>
<b>Also called</b>	Ford Lobo (Mexico, 1992–present)
<b>Production</b>	1948–present
<b>Body and chassis</b>	
<b>Class</b>	Full-size pickup truck
<b>Layout</b>	Front engine, rear- or four-wheel drive
<b>Chronology</b>	
<b>Predecessor</b>	1941–1948 Ford pickup
<b>Successor</b>	Ford Super Duty (F-250, F-350, F-450, F-550, F-650, F-750)

Look at the page's left panel, find the **Page Information** link and click it.

Information for "Ford F-Series" - x +

en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Ford\_F-Series&action=info

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Article | **Talk** | Read | Edit | View history | Search Wikipedia

## Information for "Ford F-Series"

**Contents**

Basic information · Page protection · Edit history · Page properties · External tools

### Basic information

Display title	Ford F-Series
Default sort key	Ford F-Series
Page length (in bytes)	73,316
Page ID	895409
Page content language	en - English
Page content model	wikitext
Indexing by robots	Allowed
Number of page watchers	243
Number of page watchers who visited recent edits	24
Number of redirects to this page	40
Counted as a content page	Yes
Page image	
Page views in the past 30 days	47,218
Wikidata item ID	Q1146685
Local description	Series of full-sized pick-up trucks manufactured by Ford
Central description	series of full size pick-up trucks manufactured by Ford

### Page protection

Edit	Allow all users (no expiry set)
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Find the Wikidata item ID\*, copy it and paste it in the **Exercise 2** box in the questionnaire. If you do this correctly, you will find the flag. Copy the flag and paste it in the **Flag box** to capture it..

Congratulations! You have captured the flag!