

Overview of the Research Process

Research is used to strengthen an argument, to demonstrate the need for change, to provide additional information and verification, to trace a pattern or trend, to validate ideas (using statistics), to discover a process or a remedy, or to add spice to an otherwise unpersuasive or uninteresting piece of writing.

1. Primary sources

- **Interviews**
- **Observations**
- **Surveys and questionnaires**
- **Reading novels**
- **Conducting experiments**
- **Examining historical documents such as letters and original manuscripts**

2. Secondary sources

- **Analyses**
- **Assessments**
- **Evaluation of primary sources**