



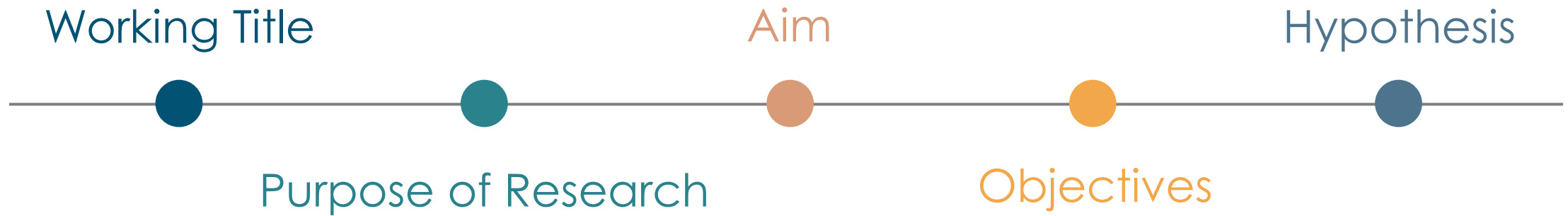
RESEARCH TOPICS

WHAT IS A RESEARCH TOPIC?

A focussed subject or issue that can be studied systematically.



CHOOSING A TOPIC



BRAINSTORMING

**Sustainable
Construction**

**Retrofit /
Refurbishment**

**Construction
Materials**

**Circular
Economy**

**Health and
Safety**

Contracts

**Environmental
Impact**

**Climate
Change**

**Project
Delays**

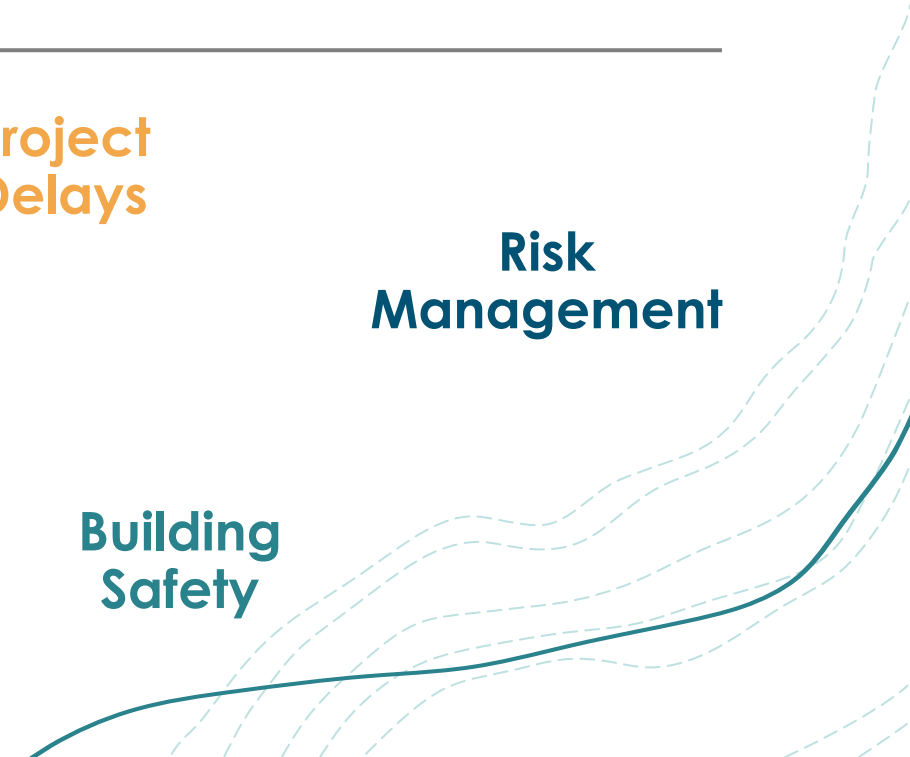
**Risk
Management**

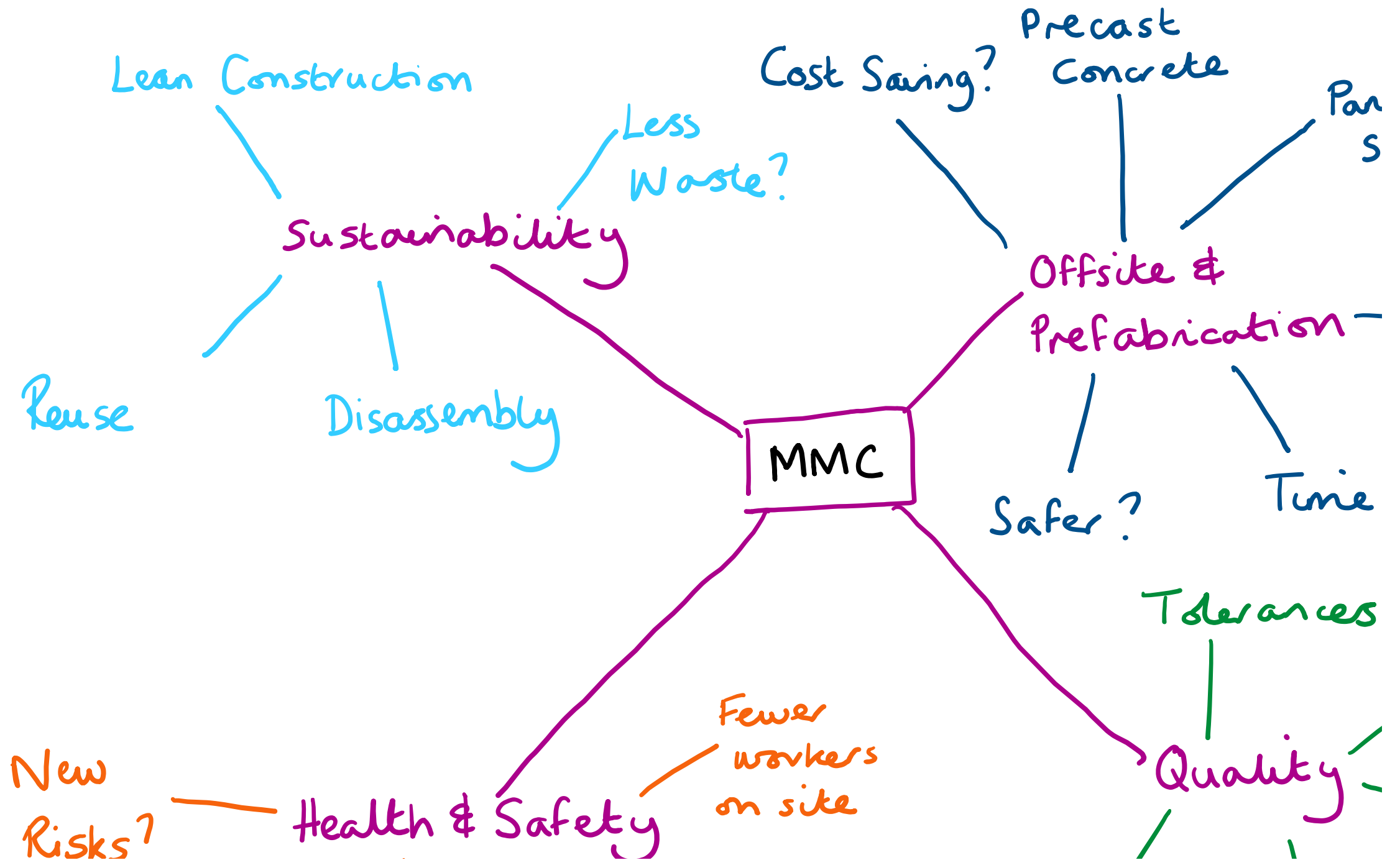
**Construction
Costs**

**Digital
Technology**

**Building
Safety**

**Artificial
Intelligence**





CHOOSING A TOPIC

There are several criteria to consider when deciding on your research topic.



CHOOSING A TOPIC

- Realistic

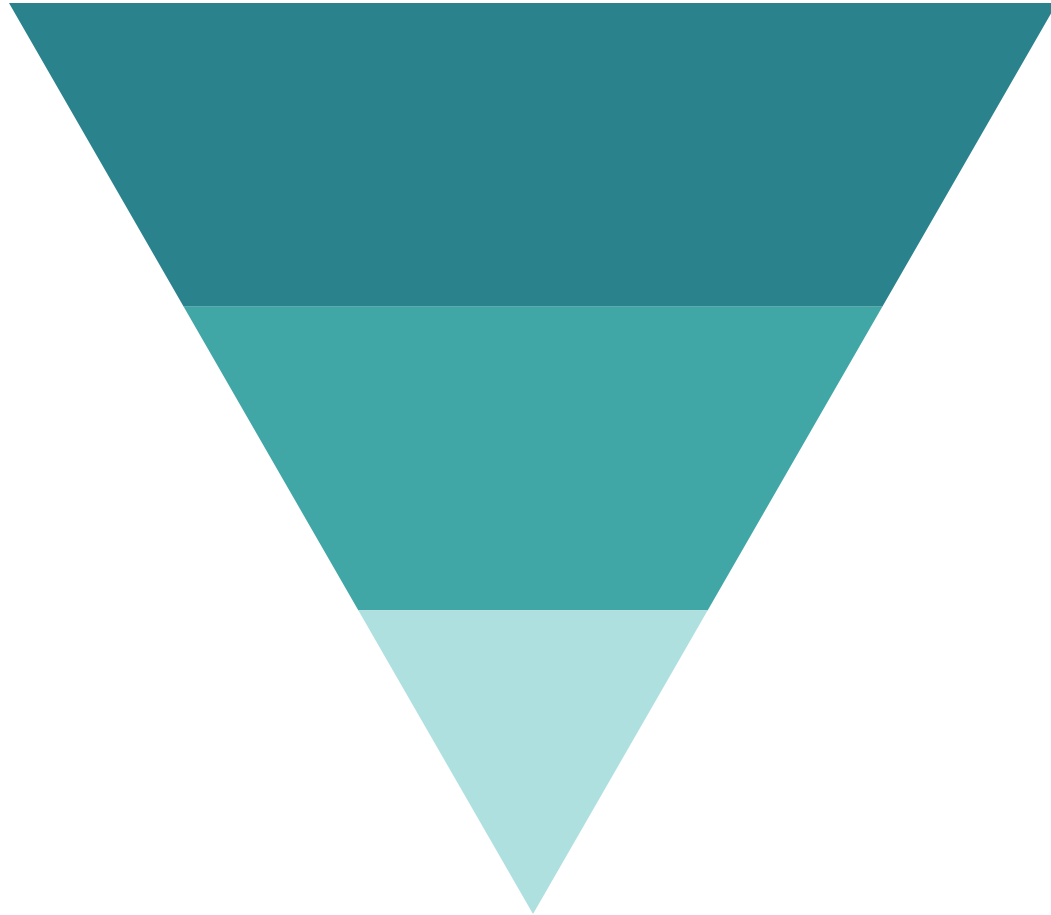


CHOOSING A TOPIC

- Realistic
- Specific



CHOOSING A TOPIC



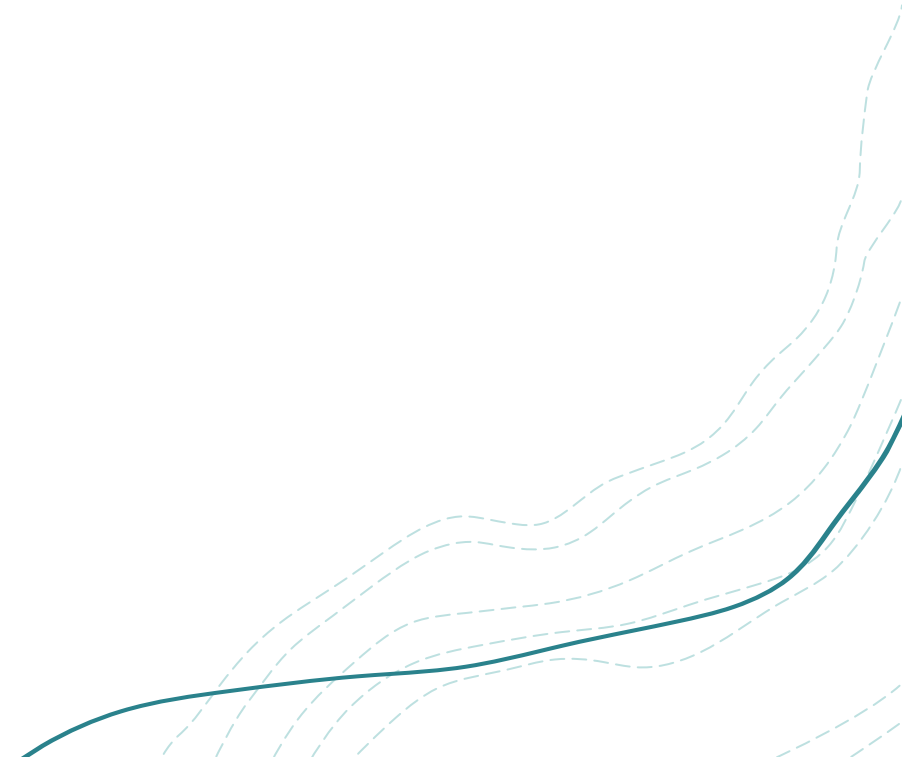
Initial Idea

Narrowing

Final Focus

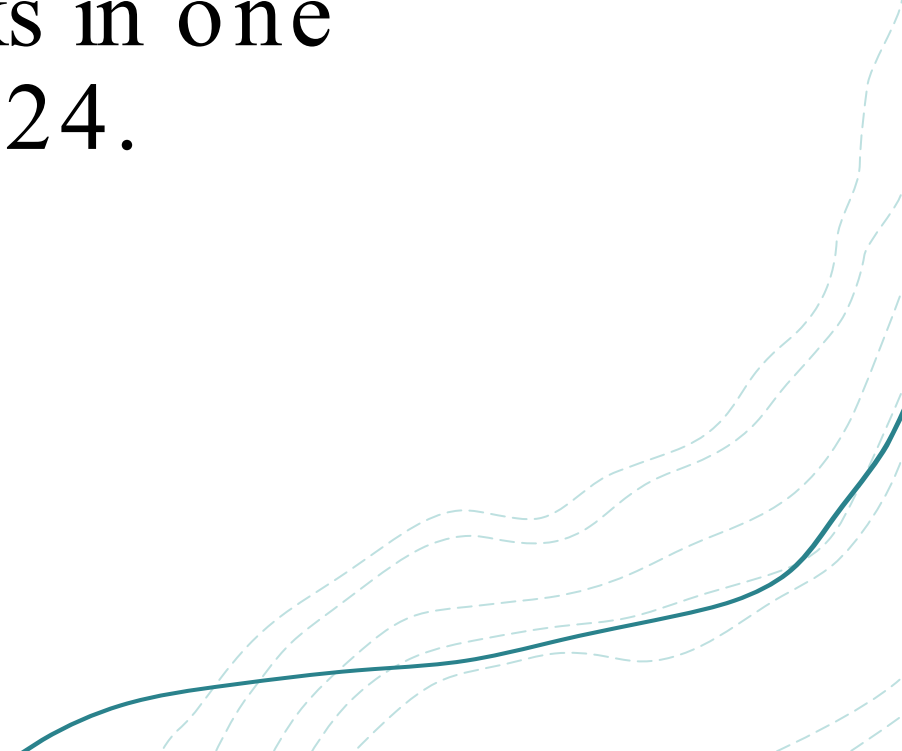
CHOOSING A TOPIC

- Sustainable building practices

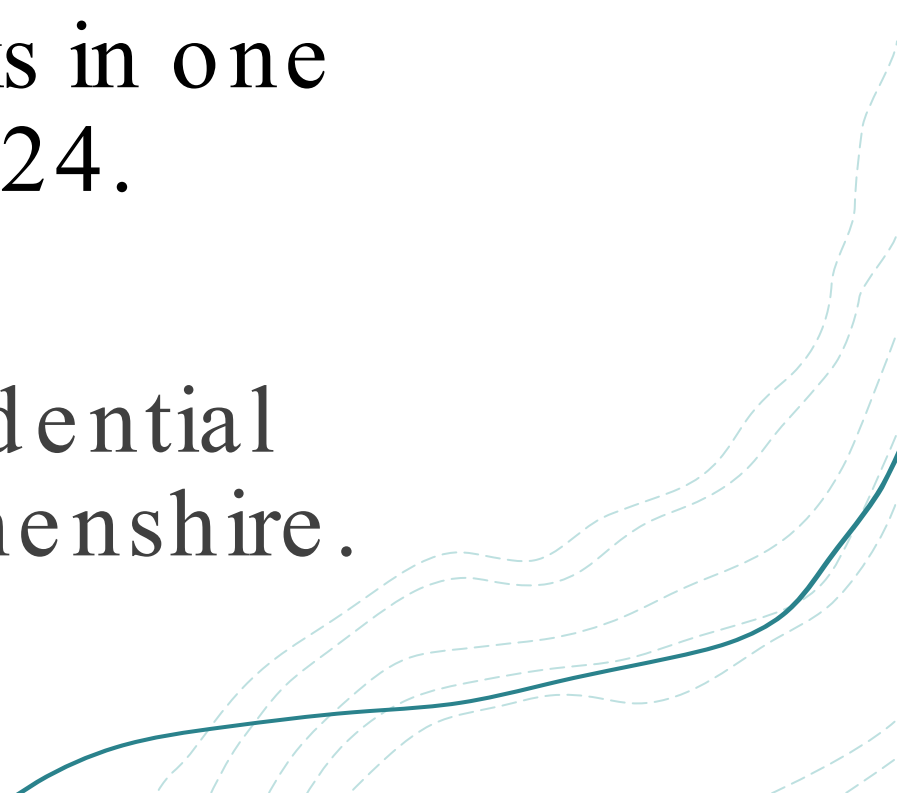


CHOOSING A TOPIC

- Sustainable building practices
- The effect of using recycled bricks in one housing project in Swansea in 2024.



CHOOSING A TOPIC

- Sustainable building practices.
 - The effect of using recycled bricks in one housing project in Swansea in 2024.
 - Factors influencing delays in residential construction projects in Carmarthenshire.
- 
- The bottom right corner of the slide features several decorative, wavy, light blue lines that sweep upwards and to the right, creating a modern, abstract design element.

CHOOSING A TOPIC

Too Broad	Refined	Balanced
Sustainable building practices.	Adoption of low-carbon building materials in new-build housing projects in South Wales.	Barriers to adopting low-carbon building materials in the residential housing sector in London.
Health and safety in construction.		
Construction industry in the UK.		

CHOOSING A TOPIC

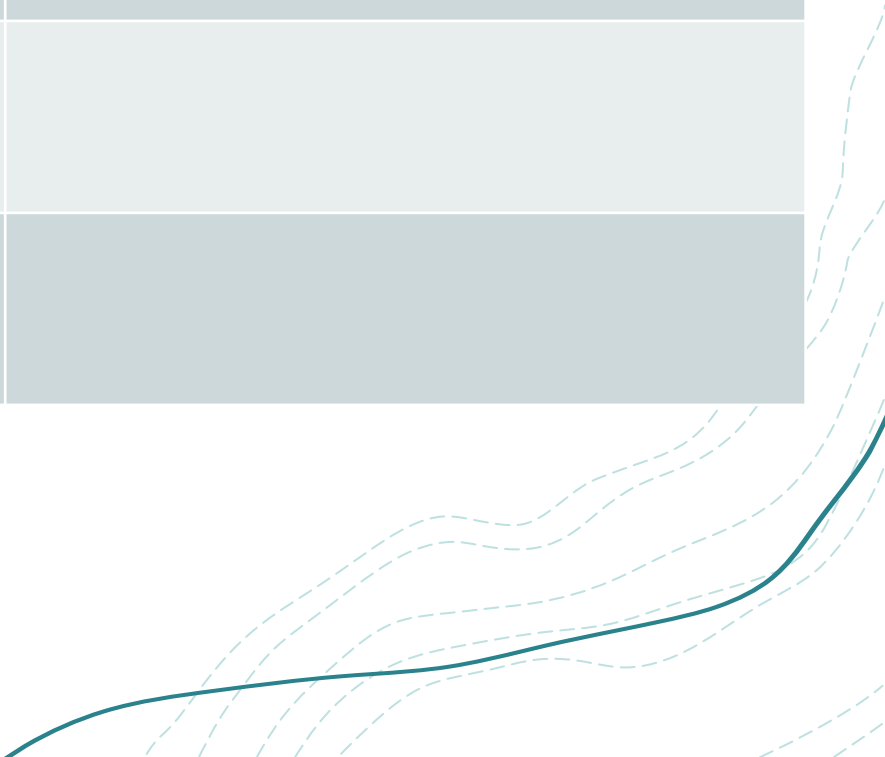
Too Broad	Refined	Balanced
Sustainable building practices.	Adoption of low-carbon building materials in new-build housing projects in South Wales.	Barriers to adopting low-carbon building materials in the residential housing sector in London.
Health and safety in construction.	Effectiveness of health and safety training in reducing accidents on high-rise sites in Cardiff.	Evaluating health and safety compliance on high-rise construction projects in Cardiff and Swansea.
Construction industry in the UK.		

CHOOSING A TOPIC

Too Broad	Refined	Balanced
Sustainable building practices.	Adoption of low-carbon building materials in new-build housing projects in South Wales.	Barriers to adopting low-carbon building materials in the residential housing sector in London.
Health and safety in construction.	Effectiveness of health and safety training in reducing accidents on high-rise sites in Cardiff.	Evaluating health and safety compliance on high-rise construction projects in Cardiff and Swansea.
Construction industry in the UK.	The challenges faced by small and medium-sized construction firms in the UK post-Brexit.	Post-Brexit impacts on supply chains and labour availability in UK construction SMEs

CHOOSING A TOPIC

Too Narrow	Expanded	Balanced
The effect of using recycled bricks in one house project in Swansea in 2024.	The use of recycled brick materials in residential construction projects across Swansea (2015–2025).	Assessing the impact of recycled brick use on cost efficiency and sustainability in residential construction projects in South Wales.
Noise levels from a specific concrete mixer used in a Llanelli housing estate		
Worker productivity on one Crossrail site during night shifts.		



CHOOSING A TOPIC

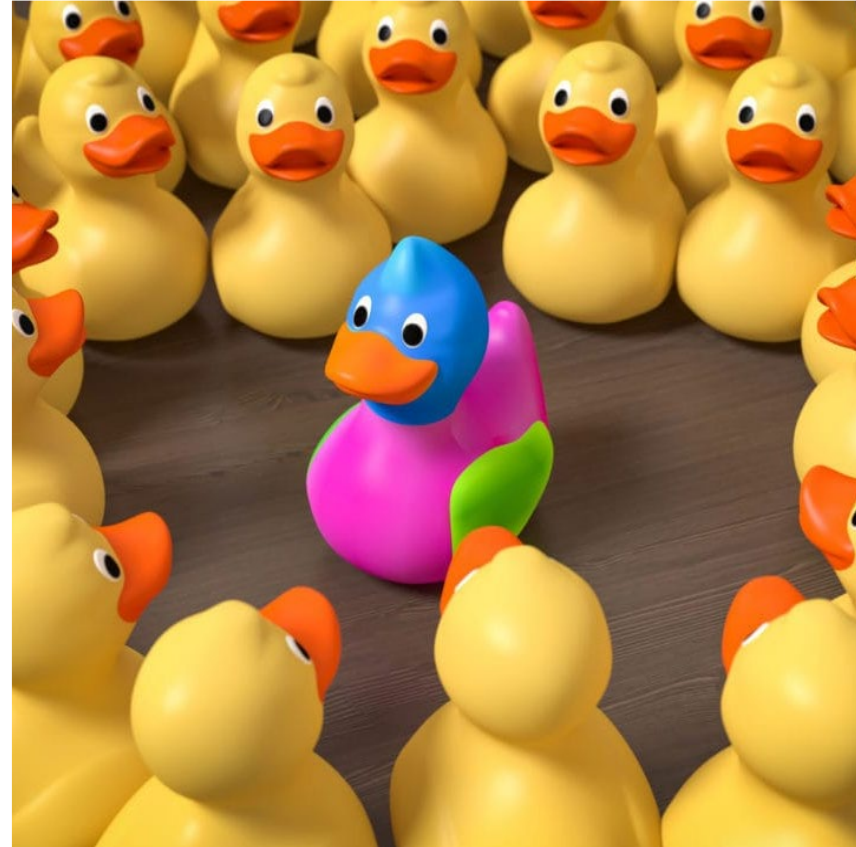
Too Narrow	Expanded	Balanced
The effect of using recycled bricks in one house project in Swansea in 2024.	The use of recycled brick materials in residential construction projects across Swansea (2015–2025).	Assessing the impact of recycled brick use on cost efficiency and sustainability in residential construction projects in South Wales.
Noise levels from a specific concrete mixer used in a Llanelli housing estate	Noise pollution from construction equipment in residential building projects in Llanelli	Impact of construction-related noise pollution on residential communities in Welsh towns.
Worker productivity on one Crossrail site during night shifts.		

CHOOSING A TOPIC

Too Narrow	Expanded	Balanced
The effect of using recycled bricks in one house project in Swansea in 2024.	The use of recycled brick materials in residential construction projects across Swansea (2015–2025).	Assessing the impact of recycled brick use on cost efficiency and sustainability in residential construction projects in South Wales.
Noise levels from a specific concrete mixer used in a Llanelli housing estate	Noise pollution from construction equipment in residential building projects in Llanelli	Impact of construction-related noise pollution on residential communities in Welsh towns.
Worker productivity on one Crossrail site during night shifts.	Comparing worker productivity during night and day shifts across multiple Crossrail sites.	Shift patterns and their impact on productivity in large-scale infrastructure projects in the UK.

CHOOSING A TOPIC

- Realistic
- Specific
- Unique



CHOOSING A TOPIC

- Realistic
- Specific
- Unique
- Accessible



CHOOSING A TOPIC

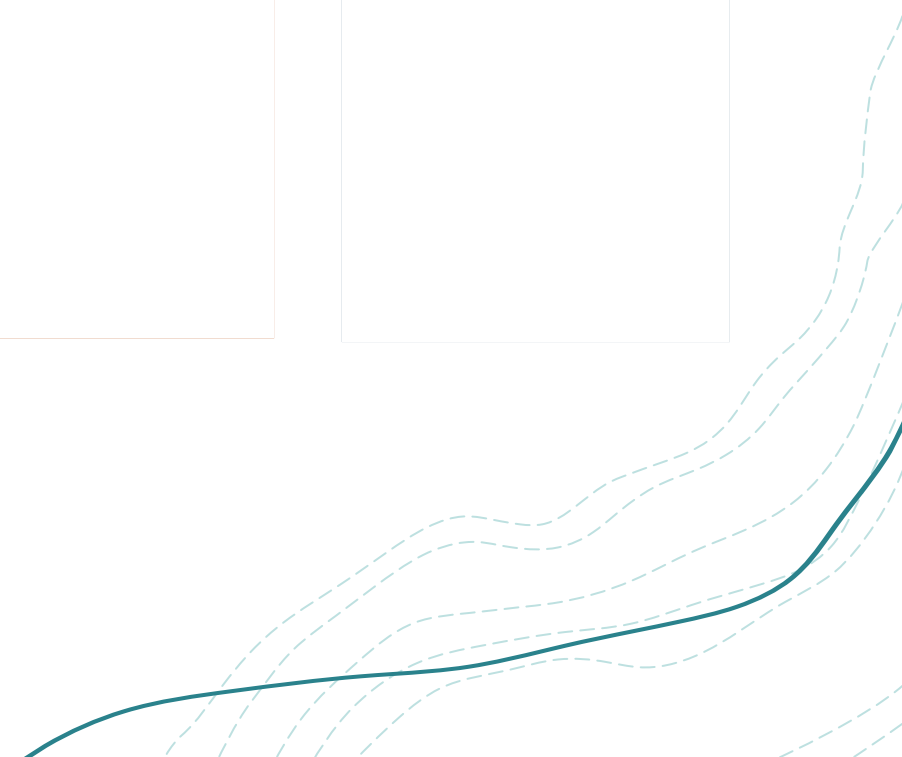
- Realistic
- Specific
- Unique
- Accessible
- Personal



SOURCES OF RESEARCH IDEAS



**PERSONAL
INTEREST**



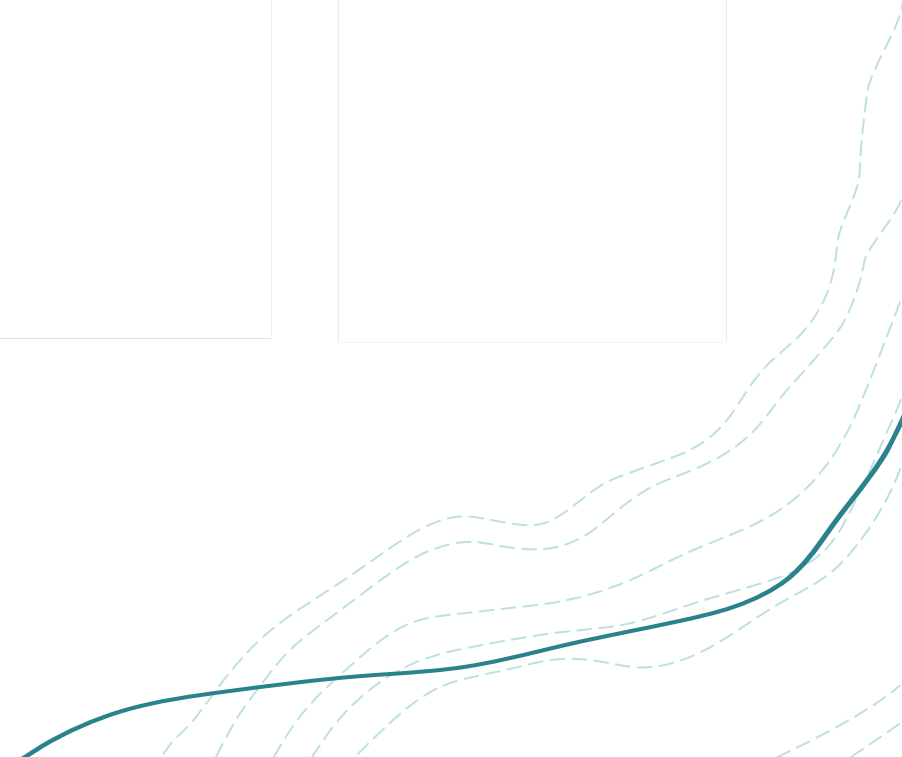
SOURCES OF RESEARCH IDEAS



**PERSONAL
INTEREST**



COURSEWORK



SOURCES OF RESEARCH IDEAS



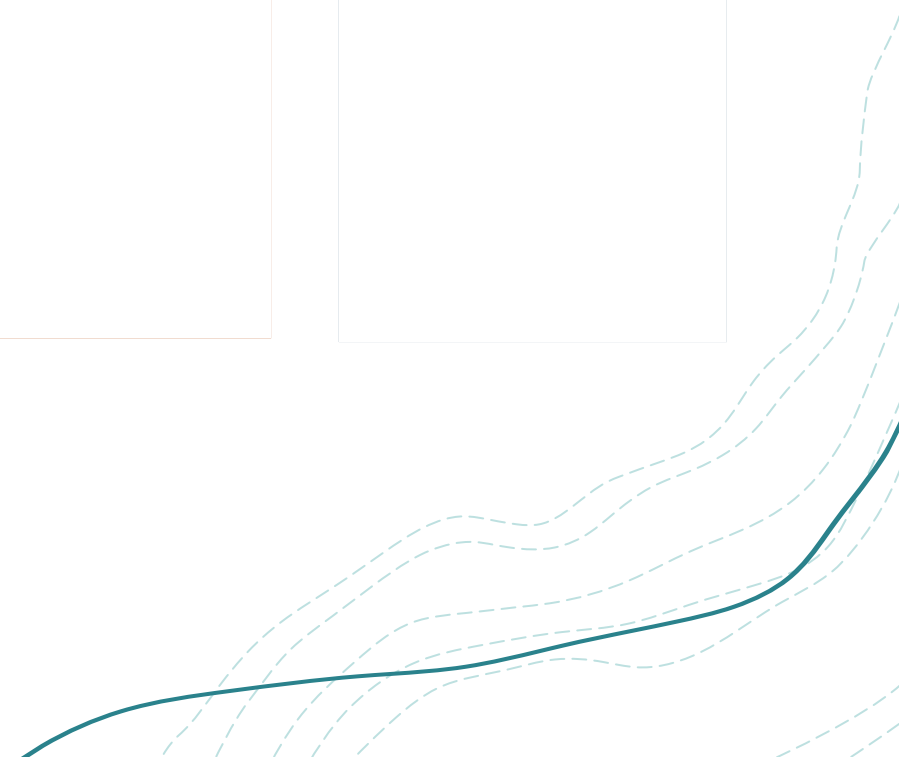
**PERSONAL
INTEREST**



COURSEWORK



**LITERATURE
REVIEW**



SOURCES OF RESEARCH IDEAS



**PERSONAL
INTEREST**



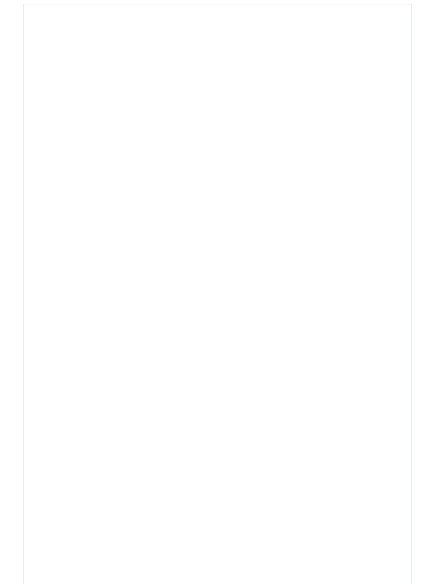
COURSEWORK



**LITERATURE
REVIEW**



CURRENT EVENTS



SOURCES OF RESEARCH IDEAS



**PERSONAL
INTEREST**



COURSEWORK



**LITERATURE
REVIEW**

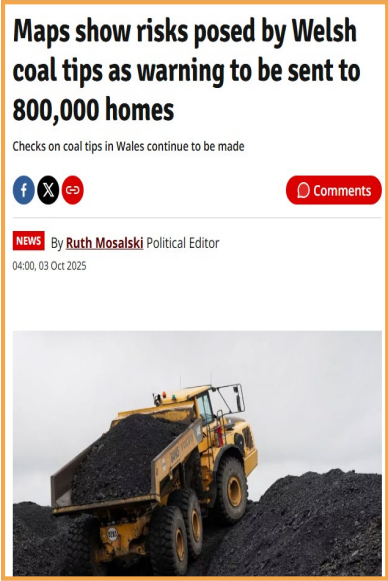
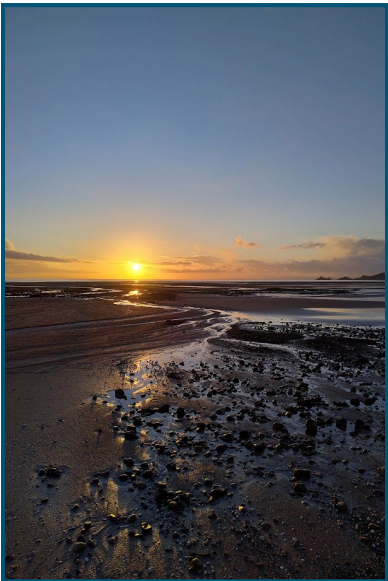


CURRENT EVENTS



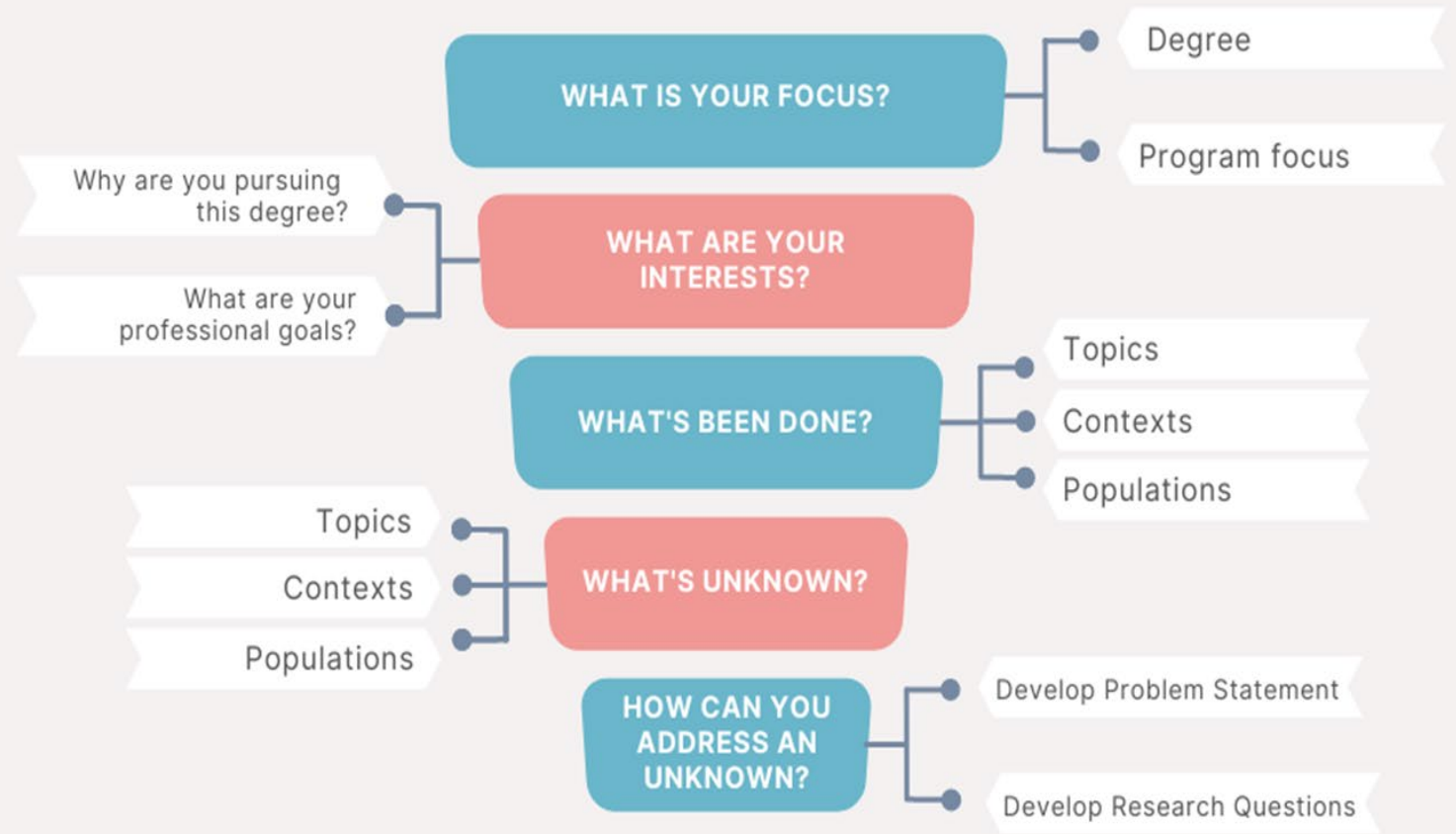
**PROFESSIONAL
PRACTICE**

SOURCES OF RESEARCH IDEAS

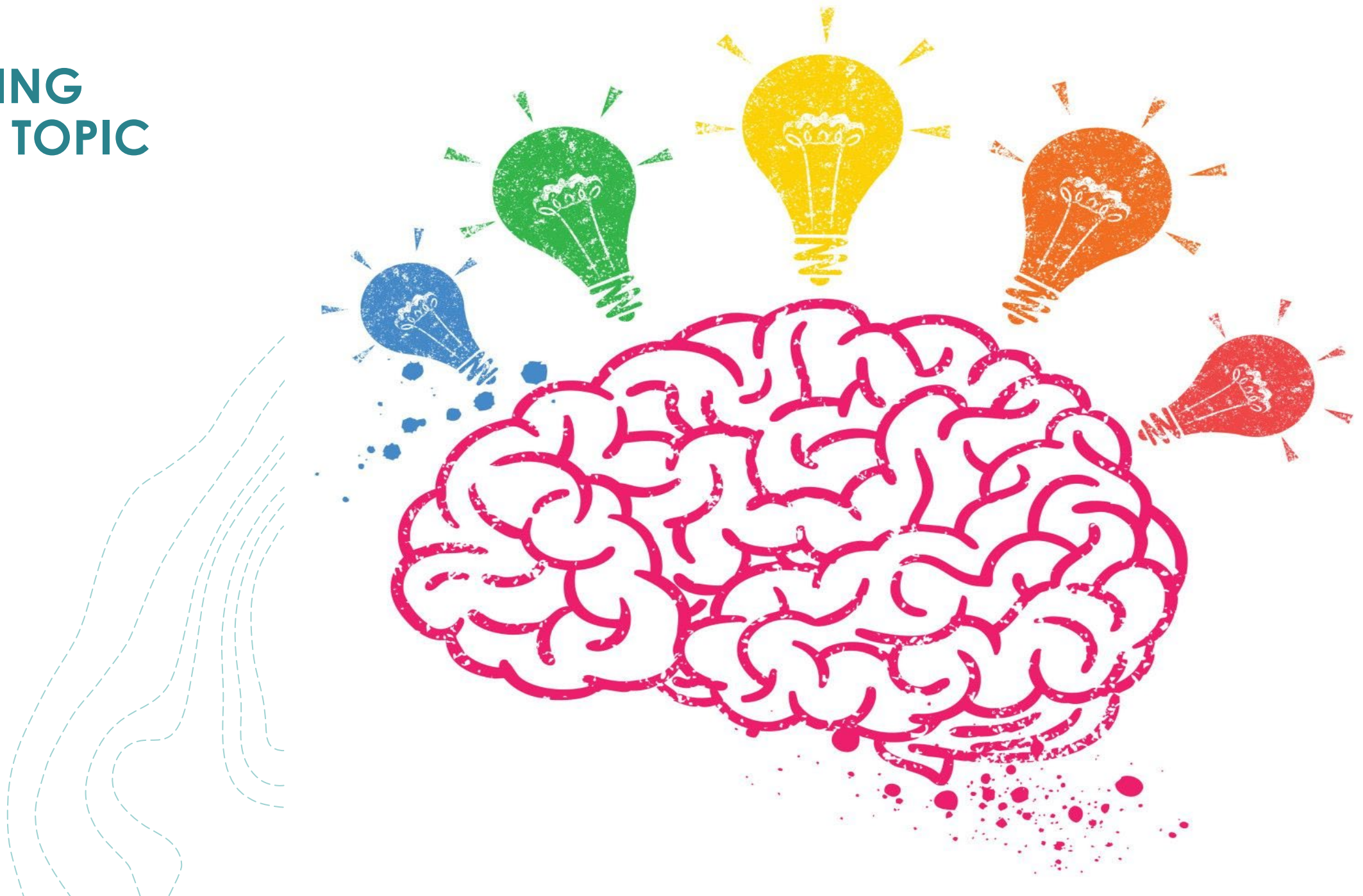


REFINING YOUR TOPIC

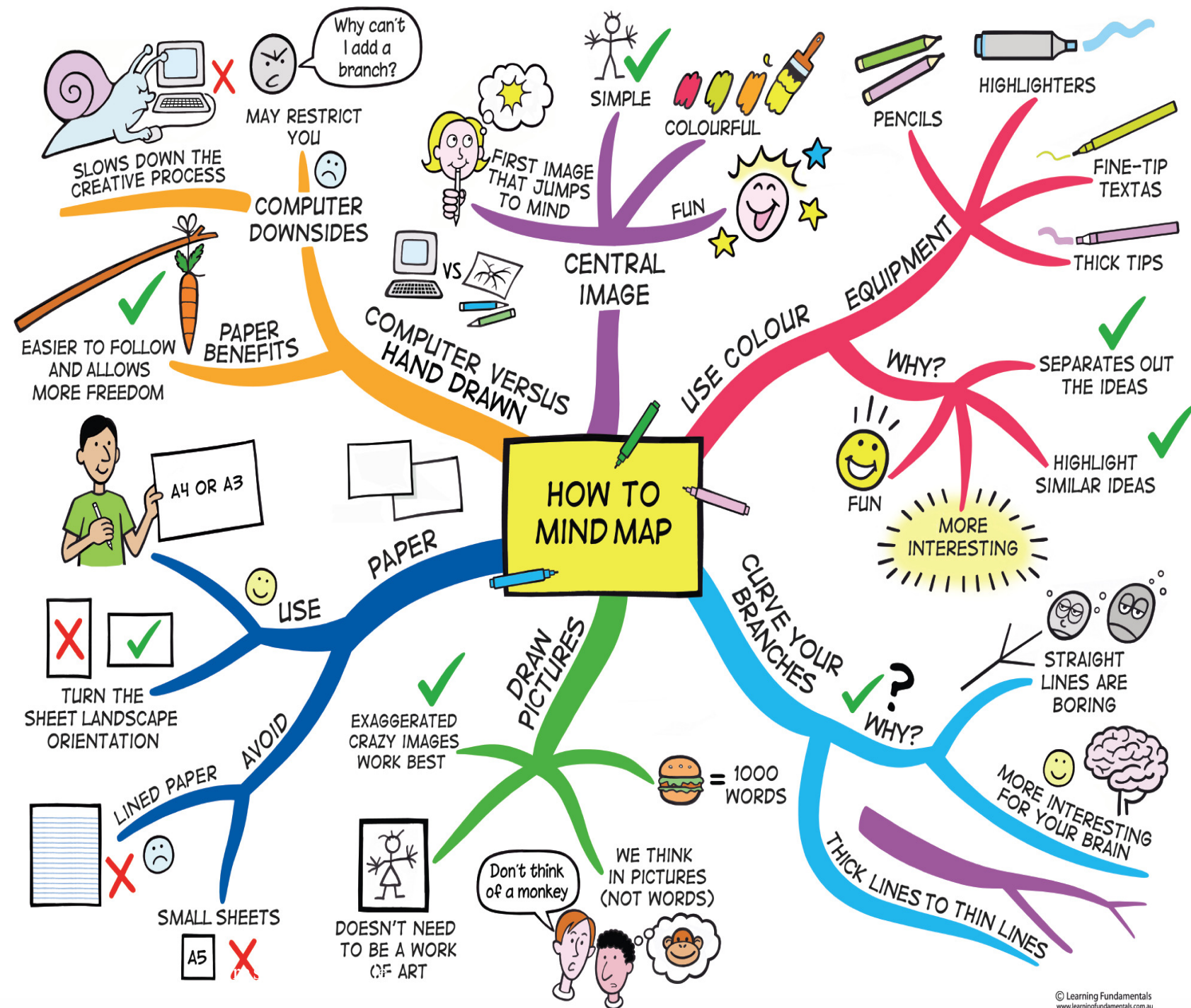
Narrowing your Research Topic



REFINING YOUR TOPIC



REFINING YOUR TOPIC



REFINING YOUR TOPIC



REFINING YOUR TOPIC

CLIMATE CHANGE



WHO

5W1H QUESTION ?

Ask the right questions to get all the needed information to succeed



WHAT

5W1H QUESTION ?

Ask the right questions to get all the needed information to succeed



WHERE

5W1H QUESTION ?

Ask the right questions to get all the needed information to succeed



WHEN

5W1H QUESTION ?

Ask the right questions to get all the needed information to succeed



WHY

5W1H QUESTION ?

Ask the right questions to get all the needed information to succeed



HOW

5W1H QUESTION ?

Ask the right questions to get all the needed information to succeed

REFINING YOUR TOPIC

CLIMATE CHANGE

WHO
LOCAL
AUTHORITIES

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Presentation title

34

REFINING YOUR TOPIC

CLIMATE CHANGE

WHO
LOCAL
AUTHORITIES

5W1H QUESTION ?

Ask the right questions to get
all the needed information to succeed

WHAT
FLOOD
RESILIENCE

5W1H QUESTION ?

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WHAT
FLOOD
RESILIENCE

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WHERE
SOUTH WALES
COMMUNITIES

5W1H QUESTION ?

Ask the right questions to get
all the needed information to succeed

WHEN

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WHY

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RESILIENCE

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WHERE
SOUTH WALES
COMMUNITIES

5W1H QUESTION ?

Ask the right questions to get
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WHEN
CURRENT
ADAPTATION
PLANNING

5W1H QUESTION ?

Ask the right questions to get
all the needed information to succeed

Presentation title

WHY

5W1H QUESTION ?

Ask the right questions to get
all the needed information to succeed

HOW

5W1H QUESTION ?

Ask the right questions to get
all the needed information to succeed

37

REFINING YOUR TOPIC

CLIMATE CHANGE

WHO
LOCAL
AUTHORITIES

5W1H QUESTION ?

Ask the right questions to get
all the needed information to succeed

WHAT
FLOOD
RESILIENCE

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WHERE
SOUTH WALES
COMMUNITIES

5W1H QUESTION ?

Ask the right questions to get
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WHEN
CURRENT
ADAPTATION
PLANNING

5W1H QUESTION ?

Ask the right questions to get
all the needed information to succeed

WHY
INCREASED RISK
TO
INFRASTRUCTURE

5W1H QUESTION ?

Ask the right questions to get
all the needed information to succeed

HOW

5W1H QUESTION ?

Ask the right questions to get
all the needed information to succeed

Presentation title

38

REFINING YOUR TOPIC

CLIMATE CHANGE

WHO
LOCAL
AUTHORITIES

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Ask the right questions to get
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WHAT
FLOOD
RESILIENCE

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WHERE
SOUTH WALES
COMMUNITIES

5W1H QUESTION ?

Ask the right questions to get
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WHEN
CURRENT
ADAPTATION
PLANNING

5W1H QUESTION ?

Ask the right questions to get
all the needed information to succeed

Presentation title

WHY
INCREASED RISK
TO
INFRASTRUCTURE

5W1H QUESTION ?

Ask the right questions to get
all the needed information to succeed

HOW
INTERVIEWS /
DOCUMENT
ANALYSIS

5W1H QUESTION ?

Ask the right questions to get
all the needed information to succeed

30

EVALUATING YOUR TOPIC



EVALUATING YOUR TOPIC

Feasibility Checklist Worksheet

Checklist Item	Yes	No	Unsure
Is my topic clear and specific?	☐	☐	☐
Is it researchable with available data/methods?	☐	☐	☐
Do I have access to necessary resources or participants?	☐	☐	☐
Is it feasible in the available time frame?	☐	☐	☐
Am I personally motivated to study this topic?	☐	☐	☐
Does it have academic or practical significance?	☐	☐	☐



EVALUATING YOUR TOPIC

Identify checklist items marked “No” or “Unsure.”

Ask yourself:

- Can I narrow or broaden my topic to fix the issue?
- Do I need to adjust my methodology or data collection plan?
- Should I focus on a specific context, region, or stakeholder group?

Revise your topic and re-run the checklist if necessary.





PRACTICAL TIPS

- Conduct a thorough review of existing research to identify gaps and unresolved questions.
- Explore academic journals, conference papers, magazines and books in your field to understand current trends and significant findings.



PRACTICAL TIPS

- Seek feedback from peers and mentors to refine your ideas and gain different perspectives.
- Consult industry professionals or domain experts to ensure your topic is relevant and practical.