**Essay Writing / Research with Guiding Questions (longer and shorter writing projects):**

Introduction: Activate prior knowledge, build background info. – could be historical context

Body: Details on your topic, things about the topic that interest the writer, analyze information

(impacts; cause & effect)

Conclusion: Importance of the topic to individuals or the world; compare and contrast the information;

make connections to other topics or info.

**Focus Questions:** Questions used to guide research – makes info relevant to the student

*For beginner researchers or shorter assignments:* teacher made questions

*For seasoned researchers or longer research assignments:* Student generated questions

**Persuasive Essay / Arguments with Guided Questions**

Introduction: State the argument, introduce topic / background information

Body: Details to support argument; details that discredit opposing point of view

Conclusion: Importance of the topic / point of view to individuals or the world, relate to similar examples in

similar topics strengthening argument

**Writing Anchor Standards: 1, 2, 4, 5**

In the beginning, pose the questions (guided questions) to the students to help facilitate their research. As practice becomes “perfect”, eliminate the teacher provided guided questions and let the students come up with their own guided questions to drive their own research.

[Abraham Lincoln](http://www.whitehouse.gov/about/presidents/abrahamlincoln/)

Highlight important information. vs. What helped Lincoln prepare for his presidency?