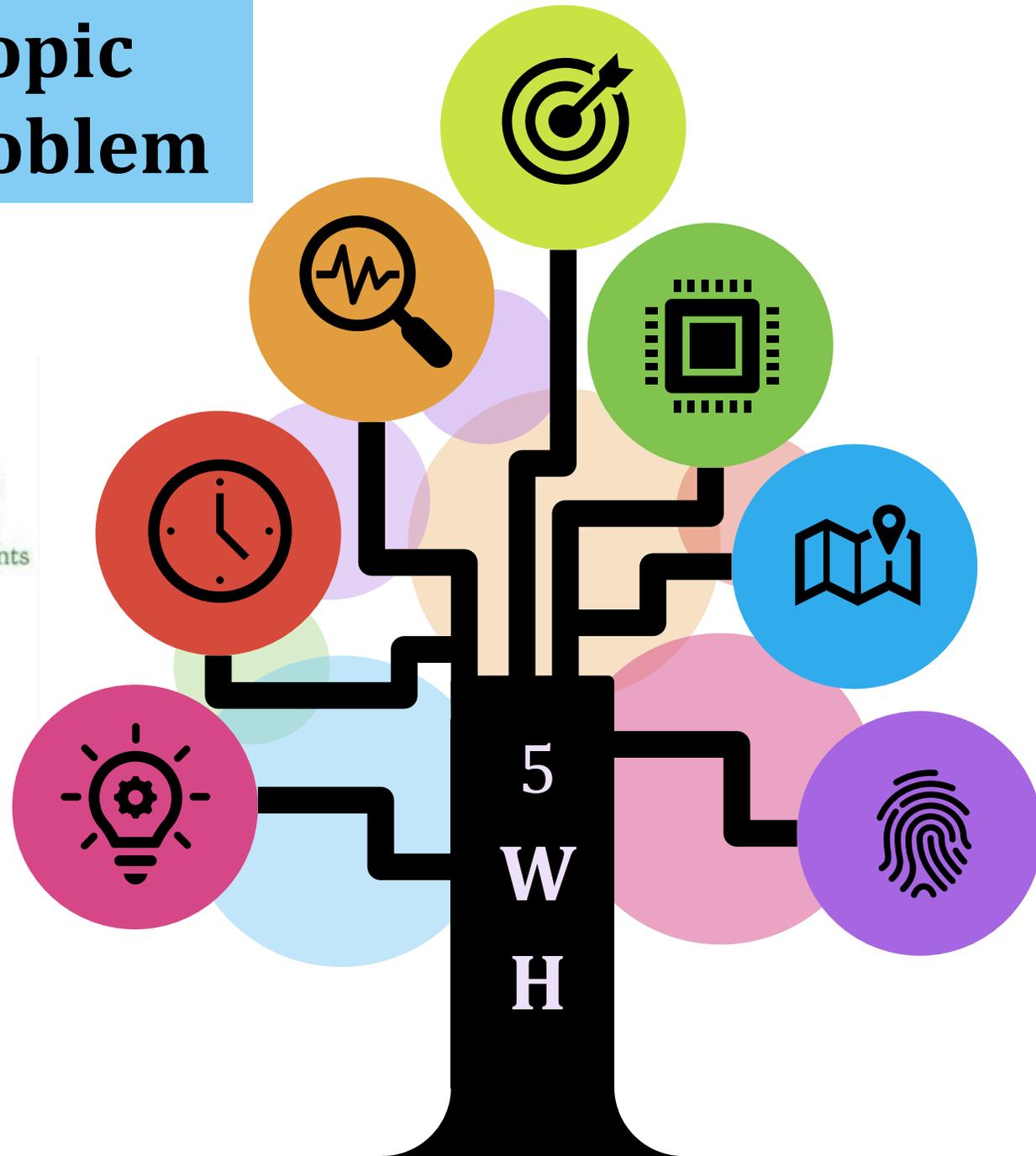
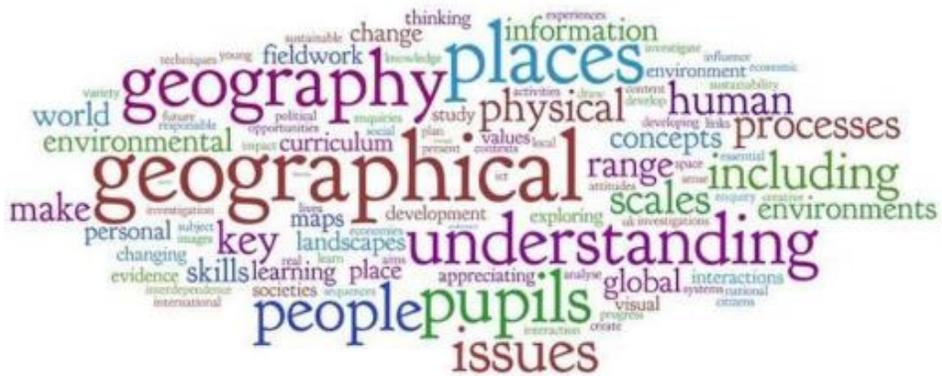


# Selection of the Topic Statement of the Problem

Unit: 3



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❖ What

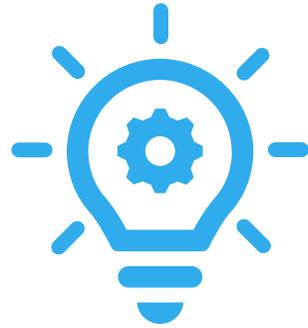
❖ When

❖ Where

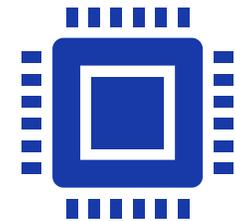
❖ Why

❖ Who

❖ How



5 WWH



# Criteria for selecting a research topic

- ❖ Relevance
- ❖ Feasibility
- ❖ Cost effectiveness
- ❖ Applicability of the results
- ❖ Urgency of data needed
- ❖ Avoidance of duplication
- ❖ Acceptability



## Selecting a research topic

- brainstorm for ideas
- choose a topic that will enable you to read and understand the literature
- ensure that the topic is manageable and that material is available
- make a list of key words
- be flexible
- define your topic as a focused research question
- research and read more about your topic
- formulate a thesis statement

## Selecting a research topic

- Keeping Career Path in Focus
- Topic of Your Interest
- Knowledge on a topic
- Area of experience
- An informative topic



Source: <https://career.du.edu/blog/2015/04/24/5-important-factors-to-consider-when-choosing-your-dissertation-research-topics/>

## Selecting a research topic

**Personal Inclination.** The chief motivation in the way of selecting research problem is the personal inclination of the researcher. If a researcher has personal interest in the topic, he would select that problem for his research work.

**Resources Availability.** During the selection, a researcher will see to the resources available. If these resources like money, time, accommodation and transport are available to the selection place, then the selection of the problem is easy.

**Relative Importance.** The importance and the problem also play a vital role in the selection of research problem. If the problem is relatively important, then the researcher tends towards the selection of the problem.

**Researcher Knowledge.** The researcher knowledge should play a vital role in the selection of the research problem. The wisdom and experience of an investigator is required for well collection of the research data. He can bitterly select a problem.

**Practicality:** Practicality is also responsible for the selection. The practical usefulness of the problem is the main motivation for a researcher to attend it.

**Time-lines** of the Problem. some problems take little time for its solution while others take more time. So, it depends on the time in which we have to complete his research work

**Data Availability.** If the desired data is available to the researcher, then the problem would be selected.

**Urgency.** Urgency is a pinpoint in the way of the selection of research problem. Urgent problem must be given priority because the immediate solution can benefit the people.

**Feasibility.** Feasibility is also an important factor for the selection of the research problem. The researcher qualification, training and experience should match the problem.

**Area Culture.** The culture of the area for which a researcher conducts his research is also responsible for the selection of research problem

## Statement of the Problem

- **Defining a research problem properly and clearly is a crucial part of a research.**
- **The research problem should be defined in a systematic manner, by addressing due importance to all angles.**
  - ✓ Statement of the problem in a general way
  - ✓ Understanding the nature of the problem
  - ✓ Surveying the available literature
  - ✓ Developing the ideas through discussions
  - ✓ Rephrasing the research problem into a working proposition.

## Statement of the problem in a general way



- Research problems should be stated in a broad general way.
- Researcher must immerse himself thoroughly in the subject matter
- Some field observations
- Pilot survey
- Researcher to narrow it down and phrase the problem in operational terms.
- A broad general statements may contain various ambiguates which must be resolved.
- Feasibility of the particular solution for the stated problem.



# Understanding the nature of the problem

- Understand its origin and nature clearly.
- If the researcher has stated the problem himself : self assessment is required and experts opinions.
- The researcher should also keep in view the environment within which the problem is to be studied and understood.



## Surveying the available literature



- An extensive literature survey
- Devote sufficient time in reviewing of research already undertaken on related problems.
- Help to narrow down the research problem [ available data and feasibility]
- This would also help a researcher to know if there are certain gaps in the theories (existing research and predictions)
- Looking through the past works leads to identify the difficulties that may be encountered in the present study as also possible analytical shortcomings.
- **Which leads useful and even new lines of approach to the present problem.**

## Developing the ideas through discussions

- **Discussion concerning a problem often produces useful information.**
- Discuss the research problem with his colleagues and others with rich experience / working on similar problems/Online: **Experience Survey**
- **Help to sharpen the work and refine the attention and focus to with in the field.**
- Don't limit with discussions and also think new techniques, datasets and reoriented analytical methods.



# Rephrasing the research problem into a working proposition



- Rephrase the research work problem into a working proposition.
- Now problem is clearly understood, the environment has to be studied
- Help in the development of working hypotheses.



## **Reference**

- Basil Gomez, John Paul Jones., (2010). Research Methods in Geography: A Critical Introduction, John Wiley & Sons, New York.
- Kothari C R (2004) Research Methodology, Methods and Techniques (Edition 2), New Age International (P) Limited, New Delhi.

Thank You