

# Literature Review Worksheet

**Introduction:** What is the topic of my literature review?

**Example:** Gun control in the USA

Topic sentence:

**Example:** The number of gun deaths in the USA is directly related to the country's gun laws.

**My sources** (works to be read, analyzed and cited):

1.

2.

3.

**Example:**

Lott, John R. *More Guns, Less Crime: Understanding Crime and Gun-Control Laws*. 7<sup>th</sup> ed. University of Chicago Press, 2010.

**Body:** What are the main points/arguments of my sources? How are these points supported?

Source 1

a.

b.

c.

Source 2

a.

b.

c.

Sources 3

a.

b.

c.

***Example:***

Source 1: Smith argues that stricter gun laws will mean fewer guns in society and fewer murders. His statistics show that cities that have lower incidences of murder also have a lower number of gun sales.

Source 2: Lott states that if citizens have the right to protect themselves with their own guns, that there will be less incidences of random murder. He argues that potential shooters will be deterred if they know that potential victims could also be carrying guns to protect themselves.

**Body:** Similarities in (comparing) two or more of the articles:

**Example:** Smith and Lott both agree that private citizens need to go through mandatory checks to determine whether or not they are psychologically fit to be carrying firearms.

**Body:** Differences in (contrasting) in two or more of the articles:

**Example:** Smith and Lott disagree on the level of security felt by guns owners.

**Conclusion:** Summarizing

**Example:** This literature review was conducted to analyze opposing perspectives on gun laws and gun ownership in the United States.

Why is the topic of this literature review important and/or what should be the next step of this study?

**Example:** Further research is needed to examine recent statistics on gun control, gun ownership and gun deaths in other countries compared with that in the United States.

**For additional help: book an appointment with an Academic Writing and Humanities Specialist at the Writing & Learning Centre: <https://alexander.mywconline.com>**

**This worksheet was put together with help from:**

[http:// library.concordia.ca/help/writing/literature-review.php](http://library.concordia.ca/help/writing/literature-review.php)

<http://www.writing.utoronto.ca/advice/specific-types-of-writing/literature-review>

<http://www.lib.uoguelph.ca/get-assistance/writing/specific-types-papers/writing-literature-review>