## 

## Write a brief account of the class conversation about the topic, describing its various aspects:

After discussing the topic in class, students write an account of the conversation to keep in mind the ideas that arose from the conversation and that could lead to the framing of a series of potential areas of investigation. Student responses should include a sentence that introduces the topic. 1-2 complete sentences that explain key ideas from the discussion. This brief account will help the teacher assess what students have identified as key dimensions for the exploration of the topic, and how they formulate them.

POTENTIAL AREA OF INVESTIGATION 2	POTENTIAL AREA OF INVESTIGATION 3	POTENTIAL AREA OF INVESTIGATION 4
In a few words, describe what you would like to know more about within the topic:	In a few words, describe what you would like to know more about within the topic:	In a few words, describe what you would like to know more about within the topic:
Based on the topic exploration, students perform pre-searches and discuss the topic with members of their learning community (peers, teachers, librarians). From these discussions, they draw more focused ideas about specific questions or themes they would like to investigate further within the framework of the general topic. Student responses in each box should include a complete statement or question that introduces focused area of investigation that is related to the overall topic. The teacher will be able to assess how the students framed each area: how clear and how focused each question or theme is.		
Explain why you are interested in this:	Explain why you are interested in this:	Explain why you are interested in this:
The research process must encourage productive curiosity. Therefore, it is important that the students are genuinely interested in the areas of investigation that they choose to explore. Student responses should include a complete sentence that clearly explains why they are interested in the area of of investigation. The teacher will get important information about how interested the student really is and the relationship between each area of investigation and the student's life and personality.		
Explain how you came to this question or problem:	Explain how you came to this question or problem:	Explain how you came to this question or problem:
Students have to explain the process they went through to get to the idea for each particular area of investigation. Students responses should include sentences that explain the steps they took to decide on the idea. This explanation will help the teacher assess how creative and proactive the students were in the process of exploring the topic: discussions with members their learning community, pre-searches in certain places, connections with events in their lives or the lives of others, connections with previous readings, etc.		

## **EXPLORING A TOPIC**



