**Refining Your Research Plan --Exercise**

Consider the following questions and jot down some ideas to move your research project into its next stages, from research to drafting.

**Overview questions**:

1. Briefly, what is the **problem or opportunity** that you are investigating?
2. What is your **tentative thesis**?
3. Who is your **audience**, briefly? (be as specific as you can; list just one group, the most important one)
4. What is your **audience’s** likely **knowledge** of the subject and **attitude** about it?
5. **Your ethos**: What is this audience’s attitude toward you likely to be? How will you present yourself as credible and qualified to discuss this issue (good sense, good morals, and good will)?

**Research/Drafting Plan**

1. What do you think are your strongest pieces of support for your thesis?
2. What is your weakest point, so far, and why?
3. What images do you have or do you want to find and what will they add to your argument?
4. Briefly, what sections (paragraphs or paragraph blocks) is your argument likely to fall into?