Need to do database research?
Let’s think about search terms...

1. What’s your topic?

_____________________________

ex. Confederate monuments should be taken down

2. Circle the important words. Strike through the unnecessary ones.

ex. Confederate monuments should be taken down

3. Connect those important words with AND***

_____________________________

ex. “Confederate monuments” AND “taken down”

4. Can you think of synonyms or similar words to those important words?
   Connect those with OR*** and connect each line with AND.

_____________________________
_____________________________
_____________________________

ex. “Confederate monuments” OR “Confederate statues” OR “Confederate memorials”
   AND
   “Taken down” OR removed OR removal OR destroyed

6. Congrats! You just made some excellent search terms! Don’t you feel better already?
   *** AND, OR, and NOT are considered Boolean Operators. They help broaden and narrow your search by connecting terms.