

Generating Search Words From Your Topic Statement

1. Write your topic statement in the middle space below, all on one line; you may leave out insignificant words.
2. For each significant word, write words progressively **broader** (more general) in meaning in the space above your topic statement. You are not writing a sentence; the line as a whole will not have to make sense.
3. For each significant word, write words progressively **narrower** (more specific) in meaning in the space below your topic statement.

Some tips:

- The words you use should be true, that is, they shouldn't change the essential meaning of your topic statement
- You might find that you can find words with similar meanings that aren't necessarily broader or narrower; just place them on the table.

Broadest term	quantity	back	Limitation	People					Knowledge		Therapy		End		
Broader term	"large numbers"	Muscle		Patients	"no effect"	Heavy-duty	pharmaceuticals		Guidance		Exercise		Relieve		
Broad term	numbers		Discomfort	Victims	ineffective	Powerful	Drugs		understanding				Lessen		
Topic statement	Many	back	pain	sufferers	needlessly take	strong	medications	when	education	and	physical therapy	could	Ease	their	pain
Narrow term	"a number"	Back injury		"_____ patients"	uselessly	High dose	Prescriptions		Information		Stretching		Reduce		
Narrower term	Specific estimate	Spinal	disease		waste	Frequent	Narcotics		Evidence		Strengthening				
Narrowest	(specific number)	Vertebrae	Disability				(drug names)		data		"prescribed exercise"				

Broadest term	
Broader term	
Broad term	
Topic statement	
Narrow term	
Narrower term	
Narrowest	

