

# KWL CHART

Be sure to *bullet* your list.

Use *content words* only (nouns, verbs, names of people and places, dates, numbers, etc.).

WHAT DO I <b>K</b> NOW?	WHAT DO I <b>W</b> ANT TO KNOW? <i>or</i> WHAT DO I <b>W</b> ANT TO SOLVE?	WHAT HAVE I <b>L</b> EARNEED?
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# KWL

Using a **KWL** chart like the one above is useful to help you think through your project; it also shows what you have gained as a result of your efforts!

There are three parts to the **KWL**:

## 1. WHAT DO I **K**NOW?

- Once your topic or problem has been assigned, your first step is to list everything you already know about the topic or problem. Use bullets and content words only.
- There are two reasons to list what you already know:
  1. writing down what you already know will help you write questions about what you need to find out
  2. writing down what you already know will make it clear later exactly what information needs to be cited; in other words, you can avoid plagiarizing

**Example:** *What do I know about the Underground Railroad?*

## 2. WHAT DO I **W**ANT TO KNOW? *or* WHAT DO I **W**ANT TO SOLVE?

- Now that you've figured out what you already know about your topic or problem, you'll be able to brainstorm some questions that will help guide your reading.
- As you're reading, you may have other questions pop up- be sure to read with a pen or pencil in your hand so you can record your questions as they come up.

**Example:** *What do I want to know about the Underground Railroad?*

## 3. WHAT HAVE I **L**EARNED?

- After you've finished your assignment, jot down the most memorable things you have learned while researching your topic or problem. Why were they memorable?
- You can also compare what you've learned to your "want to know/solve" questions. Have you satisfied your curiosity?

