This is how you formulate a good research question

Right, you’re about to start your research, paper, or thesis and you need to draw a plan for this.

In a research design, you point out what you want to research; why this exactly; and how you intend to answer the question.

This video is about the 'what'.

The 'what' consists of a topic plus the question you want to ask about.

Have you selected an interesting topic?

Great!

But you're not there yet.

Because what do you want to know about?

In short: what will be your main question?

If you know that, you can further develop your plan.

There are 6 types of research questions.

We'll present each using an example.

With a descriptive question, you look at something's properties or characteristics.

If you want to map out the similarities or differences between two or more things, you'll need a comparative question.

If you want to characterize or qualify something, you are defining it.

With an evaluating question, you want to assess the quality or value of something.

If you want to study causes, effects, reasons or motives, you'll be explaining.

If you want to propose a measure, approach or alternative to solve a problem or improve something, you'll choose a design question.

Which question type best suits what you want to know?

Choose one of these options and further work out your research design!