

The Literacy Project 2024-2025 Research Project

TLP Staff:

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A word cloud featuring the word "Welcome" in numerous different scripts and languages. The words are arranged in a dense, overlapping manner. Visible words include:

- English:** Welcome, Willkommen
- Hindi:** स्वागत है (Swagat hai)
- Russian:** Добро пожаловать! (Dobro pozhalovat')
- Spanish:** Bienvenidos, Bienvenue
- Portuguese:** Bem-vindos
- Tamil:** வரவேற்பு (Varavellu), வரவேற்கிறது (Varavelliditu)
- Chinese:** 欢迎 (Huānyíng)
- Japanese:** ようこそ (Yōkoso)
- Korean:** 환영합니다 (Hwanmyeonghamnida)
- Burmese:** ကိုကြိုပါတယ် (Koyikhoipatalay)
- Thai:** สวากต आहे (Swa-gat a-hai)
- Vietnamese:** Chào mừng (Chào mừng)
- Tagalog:** Maligayang (Maligayang)
- Indonesian/Malay:** Selamat datang (Selamat datang)
- Sinhala:** සුභසාගරණය (Subhasagaraṇaya)
- Khmer:** សូមស្វាគមន៍ (Som swakman)
- Myanmar:** ကိုကြိုပါတယ် (Koyikhoipatalay)
- Other visible words:** Aloha, Benvenuto, Witamy, E ku abo, Pagdating, Miré se vjen, Benvindo, Kuxush kelibsiiz, Sannu da zuwa, Benvenuti.

1. Your preferred name
2. The pronouns you use (ex: he/him, she/her, they/them, etc.)
3. The Literacy Project site you are joining us from
4. Anything else you would like to share about yourself.

Agenda



Introductions

Survey

Project Recap

Do's and Don'ts of survey writing

Brainstorming activity

Discuss and refine

Next Steps

Survey

Please use
[this link](#) to
access the
pre-survey
Google Form.

Project Information and Expectations

Project Overview

- Year long
- Voluntary
- Funded by First Literacy - Adult Education community in Boston, MA.
- Two goals:
 - First, help students at The Literacy Project develop useful skills for college and career success.
 - Second, to best inform the practices of The Literacy Project

Two possible areas that we wanted to address

1. Retention/Persistence - How do we help students stick with the program? How can we help students rejoin the program after they take a break?
2. Recruitment - Who knows about us? How did they hear about us? How can we better reach others in our community?

Expectations

Students should expect to be treated with respect and dignity. Consequently, students are expected to speak, act, and behave in ways that are respectful of others in the room. Students should communicate with the instructor to address concerns regarding their safety and well-being while in workshops.

Together we are a community of learners. The TLP Research project community supports all students, operates with harmony, is respectful of all its members, exercises compassion and understanding, and is a friendly space to all. The workshop community will always welcome new students and instructors.

Our Progress So Far



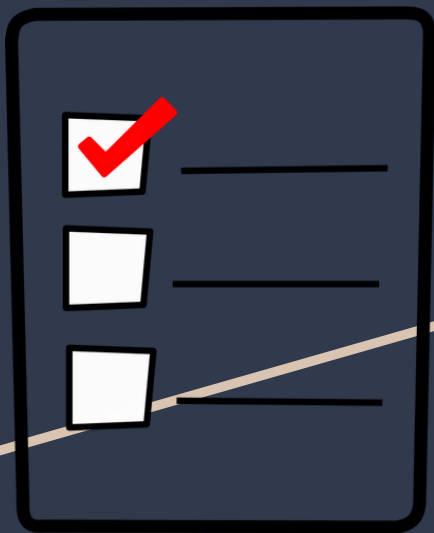
Determined a research question:

How can The Literacy Project raise awareness of ABE resources, specifically The Literacy Project, in our communities?

Students meet in Ware and Northampton to review potential data collection tools

We have settled on a survey/questionnaire followed up by a smaller pool of interviews for more information.

Tips for writing effective survey questions



Let's watch [this video](#) and then make a list of do's and don'ts to keep in mind while we brainstorm possible questions.

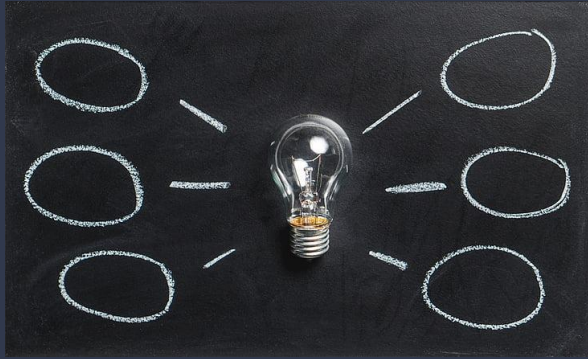
● Do's

- Easy, simple short questions (x3)
- Good grammar (x2)
- Specific Questions (x3)
- One question at a time
- Ask only necessary questions
- Questions that get to the point
- Ask questions in a positive way if possible
- Write clear questions
- Give respondents an "out" if they are uncomfortable

● Don'ts

- Avoid bias (preference or pushing respondents to one answer)
- No double negatives (x2)
- Personal/intimidating/judgemental/upsetting questions
- Don't overlap alternatives
- Don't repeat questions
- Don't assume the respondents know what we are doing.

Brainstorming Activity



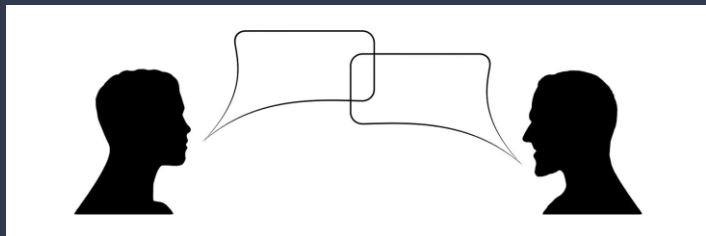
Let's work in pairs to come up with some possible questions for this survey.

The questions we ask should require responses that tell us about....

- How people heard about The Literacy Project
- How people find and connect with resources in their communities

For the sake of this brainstorming activity - write down any questions that come to mind. Do not stop to analyze, or evaluate, any of the questions you come up with.

Share Out and Discuss

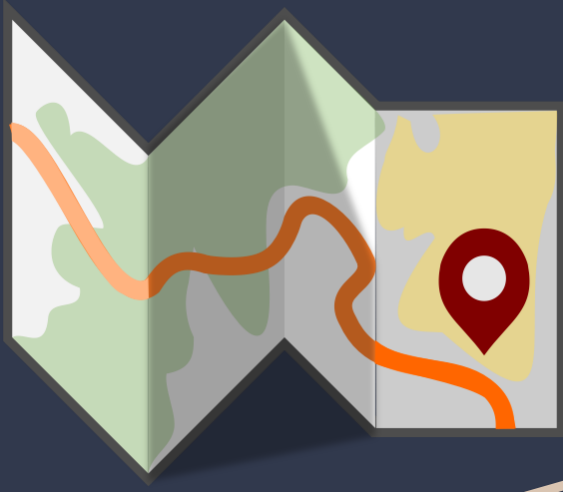


Let's listen to each other's questions and begin thinking critically about them.

How, if it all, could these questions be improved?

Finally, what are some possible responses we should include in the survey? (If this is a closed question).

Next Steps



I will complete the survey and send it out to site instructors/ workshop participants this week.

We will meet again on **Thursday, March 20th** to review some of the preliminary data.

Then we will meet again on **Tuesday, March 25th** to begin drafting possible interview questions to follow up on the survey.