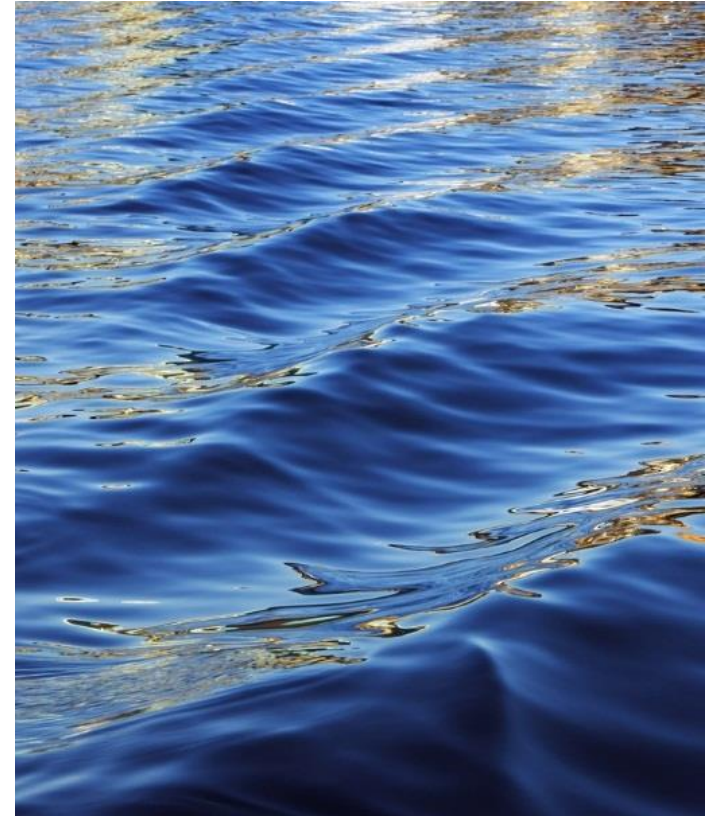




Module 4

Ideas on Research Topics for Young Inventors Journal



Series B: Social Wellbeing & Mental Health

Ideas on Research Topics

About This Document

1. The purpose of this document is to serve only as an example of how you may proceed in developing the ideas for your paper or video for this competition. This document is **optional** for you to read.
2. The outlines here are questions to get your creative juices flowing. They are not extensive ideas on any of the topics illustrated. You would need to further research and create an in-depth presentation for your paper or video, with a flow that works best for the topic you choose.
3. Please remember that your paper **MUST** focus on one issue/problem with one solution only. This is due to the 'shortness' of the paper or video. Be specific. Your paper or video has to be detailed and concise.

The paper or video you submit: basic general guidelines:

- ❖ Introduction to the topic
- ❖ Explain why this is an important topic
- ❖ Discuss the topic in detail with in-depth research that may include data, statistics, charts, etc. (References to information used is a must)
- ❖ Discuss your ideas on possible solutions to address the issues in the topic
- ❖ Explain why you think these solutions would work
- ❖ Provide a solid conclusion to the topic you are presenting

NOTE: Most importantly, be as creative as you want; but be sure to have your facts, numbers and information checked for accuracy.

Example Outline on Social Issues

TOPIC: Affordable Housing for the B40* and M40* Segments in Malaysia

Your in-depth research can look for **some** answers to the following questions which are relevant:

1. What is the current housing market like in Malaysia?
2. What are the types of housing available in Malaysia? And what is the general breakdown in terms of social strata?
3. Who are the main property developers who contribute towards developing low- to medium-cost housing in the country?
4. What are the average price marks for these houses versus the average income of those within the B40 and M40 segments?

*In Malaysia, B40 refers to the low income earners (40% of the population) whilst M40 refers to the middle class 40%.

5. How does the banking system work in Malaysia in support of making housing available to those within these social segments?
6. What is the average interest rates, taxes, stamp duties, conveyancing costs etc. for low- to medium-cost housing in Malaysia?
7. Can a B40 or M40 family realistically afford housing with the current cost of living here? How has Covid-19 affected this situation?
8. What are the key factors that affect their ability to afford housing? Etc...
9. What is the actual main problem here? (Remember to focus on ONE issue only)

10. What can be done to remedy this situation? What is your idea for a solution. Think out of the box. Government subsidy is the common solution – but is that the only solution?

11. Can you think of others which are more unique? E.g. working from home – whereby the employee can stay away from expensive urban centres, encourage alternative work for the youth like modern agriculture outside the city etc. Can rural areas be made attractive for people to want to live?

12. Or is there alternative housing methods like container housing which can be designed and constructed at lower cost? Or can transport be made more efficient for people who live away from the cities which has cheaper housing?

13. Your solution can be a general solution which can be used in many different circumstances or it can also be a very specific solution which is only for an area, community or scenarios. For example, you can propose container housing for a specific location or community you have identified – so although the idea of container housing is common – but it being used within your proposed context could be unique.

14. An example of an innovation solution is the “Human Library”

which is a hands-on learning platform globally. It provides real people as loan to readers. Readers can have conversations with human libraries available at The Human Library. The aim is to fight against prejudice where each person has a title: “unemployed”, “refugee”, “Bipolar” and by listening to the participant you learn not to judge and empathetic. Check out:

<https://humanlibrary.org>.

Be creative and innovative in conveying your ideas and thoughts. This is an example of a programme that helps with diversity and inclusion efforts which in turn helps the social wellbeing of the nation.

Example Outline on Mental Health

TOPIC: Preparing for Mental Health Support in the Post-COVID Era

Your in-depth research should be to look for answers to the following questions:

1. How should we define mental health post-pandemic?
2. Are the general cultural and social stigmas attached to mental health issues still a deterrent for troubled people to seek help in this day and age?
3. What does it mean to have mental health issues post-pandemic and how does it affect the family, friends, work, etc.?
4. What are the more common causes of mental health issues post-pandemic in your country?

5. What are the general treatments available in the country; and are they still suitable in ensuring overall mental stability post-pandemic times?
6. What kinds of help can a person in the country look for should they need mental health support?
7. Is the mental health support and/or avenues available in Malaysia (or your country or your community) adequate?
8. Is caring for the population's mental health an important aspect in protecting the nation's economy?
9. What are the key indicators that show the mental health of a country's citizens having direct impact on its economic stability?
10. What can be done to raise greater awareness; and in what ways can digital tools be used for this?

Do I have to be an Expert to "complete" this paper/ video?

This answer is NO. But you have to be disciplined by conducting research and justifying your opinion.

Think out of the box. For example, some people use Art as a means to help with mental health. See example (<https://tobiasart.org/>). You can write about using art to help your community or explore if this form of engagement is useful in your context? Can music, plays, sculptures, etc. be used? So if you are an artist, you can suggest using art – you can explore how your area of expertise can help.

To help with social wellbeing – can sports be used as a means to help built better cohesion among different communities in your area? Or can you **INVENT** your own game/ sports/ activity to address the problem you have raised?!

Conclusion

Social Wellbeing and Mental Health is very important. We need to give it the priority and importance it deserves.

Please read the modules on the types of papers you can write for the competition.

Thank You

