

AEIOU

One of the biggest obstacles for students beginning investigation and research into an issue or challenge (especially when it is real) is initial paralysis at where to begin.

AEIOU is an organizational framework that helps students make sense of the different components they will need to look into when investigating the problem or challenge.

AEIOU stands for (1) activities (2) environments (3) interactions (4) objects (5) users

DIRECTIONS:

-Activities: What activities does the person engage in on a daily, weekly and monthly basis? Which do they love and which do they dread? What are the goals of their activities that they engage in most frequently?

-Environments: Where does the person spend the majority of their time? What is it like? How does it feel? What do they like and dislike about it? If they could change one thing about their environment what would it be?

-Interactions: Who does the person interact with on a daily, weekly and monthly basis? What is the nature of these interactions? When do these interactions go well and when are they less successful?

-Objects: What objects, tools, and/or devices does the person have within their environment? How do they use them? How frequently are they used? Which could they not live without and which annoy them to no end?

-Users: Who does the person serve? Who utilizes what the person does or produces? What would help make the person's interaction with their users better or more productive?

