1. State your topic as completely as you can (in the form of a sentence or title):

_______________________________________________________________________________________

2. Think about your topic and circle the two or three most important concepts in the topic statement above. Write each concept you circled in the first space of each line below. Then list synonymous or related terms next to it on the same line, if applicable. To find related terms use: your knowledge of the subject, or a thesaurus (e.g. Biosis Previews Search Guide, Medical Subject Headings, CAB Thesaurus, Thesaurus of Psychological Terms, etc.), or scavenge terms from relevant citations that you have already found. Use truncation whenever appropriate, e.g. “ecolog*” retrieves ecology or ecological.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>First Concept</th>
<th>OR</th>
<th>Second Concept</th>
<th>OR</th>
<th>Third Concept</th>
<th>OR</th>
<th>Connector (AND OR NOT)</th>
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</table>

3. Insert a connector between the concepts to combine them into a search statement (AND OR NOT):

_______________________________________________________________________________________

4. Indicate any limits that are helpful with your search:

Limit by date _________________________________________________________________________

Limit by field (e.g. title; subject headings; etc.) _________________________________________

Other limits _________________________________________________________________________

5. List the best indexes/ databases for your topic: _________________________________________

_______________________________________________________________________________________