



Finding Experts Checklist

Are you ready to find expert sources?

One of the most important aspects of being a history detective is finding the right authority, or expert, to shed light on your investigation. An expert can be an author, a researcher, a librarian, a professor, a historian, or even, a family member. Use this checklist as a starting point to find your expert sources.

- ☐ **Talk to librarians.** Whether its your school or town librarian, or one a the Library of Congress to whom you send an email or with whom you chat online, librarians are a treasure trove of information.
- ☐ **Read.** Obtain and peruse background information about your subject, both online and in books and articles.
- ☐ **Highlight.** Underline quotations and names of sources as you are reading. Then try to locate and contact them for an interview.
- ☐ **Connect.** Contact professional organizations such as museums, historical societies and archives for suggestions of people with whom you can speak or correspond.
- ☐ **Cast a Web.** Use social networking tools such as Facebook and Twitter to find expert academics, researchers, or fans.
- ☐ **Get Local.** Look in your own “backyard” for family or community members who are connected to the investigation object.

Notes

Use the blank lines below to record names and contact information of your expert sources.
