

## How to Use Audiobooks for Research Papers

Research can be overwhelming and tedious, but it can also be exciting to learn new things. Follow the steps below to find out how audiobooks can help make research manageable and enjoyable.

1. After determining your topic, perform a book search on your topic at RFB&D's online catalog. You can search by subject or keyword to locate titles, and it will also display the reading level of the book.
2. From your search results, create a list of the audiobooks you would like to use. Place your order for the audiobooks.
3. Once you receive your books and begin working with them, the first step in the research process is to create bibliography cards, which at the end of the research paper will become your bibliography. This will allow you to keep track of your information and which source it came from. (For more information on creating a bibliography, see the informational sheet, **Audiobook Bibliography FAQs.**)
4. Before you begin the actual task of researching, you should have a general outline to guide your research and also have a thesis statement in mind. Don't forget you can change your outline or thesis as you conduct your research.
5. Note taking is the next step in the research process. Remember to always put information in your own words when taking notes from your sources. RFB&D has created the POWER Listening strategy to help with the note taking and summarizing process. The POWER Listening strategy guides you through summarizing the most important details of a text and also provides a framework for working with the source. All of the information on the POWER Listening strategy can be found at the Learning Through Listening website ([www.learningthroughlistening.org](http://www.learningthroughlistening.org)), under the Classroom Teaching Tools section.
6. After taking all of your notes, you should organize them into sections that correspond to your outline. This will assist you in the writing process.
7. Begin writing your research paper using your outline, thesis statement and note cards. Don't forget to cite your sources and don't be afraid to adjust your outline or thesis as you see necessary.
8. When you are done with the body of your paper and revisions, it is time to create the bibliography from your note cards. Remember, your sources must be listed alphabetically and pay close attention to capitalization, punctuation and spacing. You should always follow the bibliography style required by your teacher.
9. The final and most important step before considering yourself done is proofreading. Proofreading gives you the opportunity to catch spelling, grammar, punctuation and other errors. The most effective technique for proofreading is to read your paper aloud to yourself or if your computer has the capability to read back the text, listen to it. Make all necessary corrections.

Good luck and happy researching!