

Opposing Viewpoints tutorial

Opposing Viewpoints is an excellent resource to start researching a current topic for your persuasive speech or paper. As its name implies it provides different viewpoints on a wide variety of topics. It will help you choose and focus your topic and provide you with essays, articles and other types of information.

So let's get started! To get to Opposing Viewpoints you can start with Libraries home page. First click on "databases," then click on "o" and then scroll down until you get to "opposing viewpoints."

You'll see on the Opposing Viewpoints home page some broad subject groups such as "health and medicine" and "Energy and Environmentalism" Let's check that one by clicking on "view all" Here you'll see several issues that relate to this topic. This is a good example of how Opposing Viewpoints can help you refine and focus your topic.

Let's choose "renewable energy" as an example of something to focus on.

On this page you'll find a variety of sources. On the left side under "featured viewpoints" you'll see essays that provide different perspectives of the issue: the first one is in favor of renewable energy while the second essay is not.

In the right column of the page under "viewpoints" you see that there are 178 items That's a lot to go through! So let's see how we can refine that a bit. First, we'll click on "view all 178."

On the left bar you'll see different ways you can limit your search. You can just look at specific types of resources such as magazines or videos or you can limit by subject. Let's say you want to focus on "wind power" so we'll click on that. Here you'll find 35 viewpoints on that topic.

All of the items in Opposing viewpoints are full text. We'll click on the 1st item to see it.

If you look on the right side of the page you'll see that you have several choices to save this essay. You can download, email it, print or share it. And, if you look right under the title you may also listen to it or download the MP3 file.

Let's go back to our page of results to see some more possibilities

If you look on the left nav bar you'll see many more results for "wind power" from a variety of types of sources including magazines, newspapers and academic journals. There are web sites and images as well. Exploring these links will lead you to additional useful information. And remember it's all full text, too!

And, if you scroll down you can continue to refine to topics such as "wind power plants" or 'wind turbines.'

Let's briefly explore a couple of other ways you can search Opposing Viewpoints.

If you go to the top nav bar and click on "issues" you'll see all of the topics included in Opposing Viewpoints.

Another option is to type in a search. At the top of the page is a search box. So, for example, if you already knew that you wanted to search "wind power" you can type it in and retrieve results that way.

These are a few ways that Opposing Viewpoints can help you with your persuasive speech or paper. Remember that if you need any help with Library resources you can always Ask Us.