

# Supporting students in the Sciences

## IA3: Research investigation

Effective processes and practices: Selecting a claim to be evaluated

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### Purpose

Effective implementation of a research investigation involves five processes organised around a research question, as shown below. This resource supports students in selecting a claim to be evaluated.



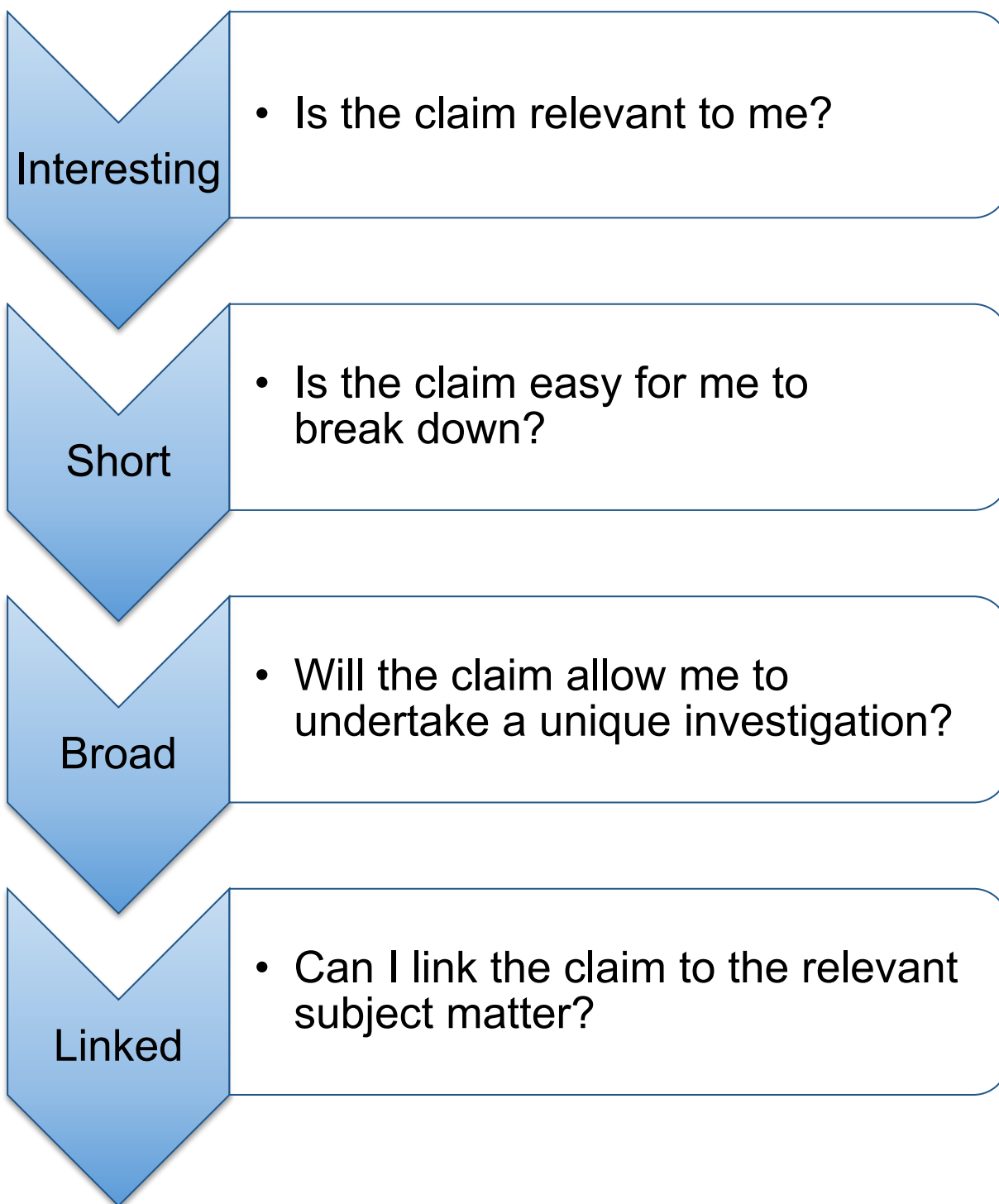
### What is a claim?

A claim is an assertion made without any accompanying evidence to support it. Your teacher will provide you with claims to choose from.

You should select a claim that is:

- interesting — relevant and engaging
- short — easy to breakdown
- broad — allows you to explore a range of research questions
- linked — a clear connection with the syllabus subject matter.

## Key questions when selecting a claim



# Ideas for selecting a claim

## Interesting

### Is the claim relevant for me?

- Select a claim that is interesting and engaging for you.
- Select a claim that investigates something topical or that impacts your life, e.g. health, climate change, future technologies.
- If none of the claims are interesting to you, ask your teacher if you can develop a claim of your own.

## Short

### Is the claim easy for me to break down?

- Select claims that are short concise statements. Long claims can be difficult to breakdown into a research question.
- Check that the claim allows you to identify independent and dependent variables for your research question.
- Select claims with keywords and terminology that you understand or can find the meaning of.

## Broad

### Will the claim allow me to undertake a unique investigation?

- Select a claim that allows you to undertake a unique investigation, different to the other students in your class.
- Consider whether the claim will allow you to develop a specific and relevant research question.
- Consider whether you can access relevant resources to develop a justified argument for or against the claim.

## Linked

### Can I link the claim to the relevant subject matter?

- Make sure that you can see the connection between the claim and the relevant subject matter of the syllabus.
- Avoid claims that might take you into topics from other subjects or other units of this subject.



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