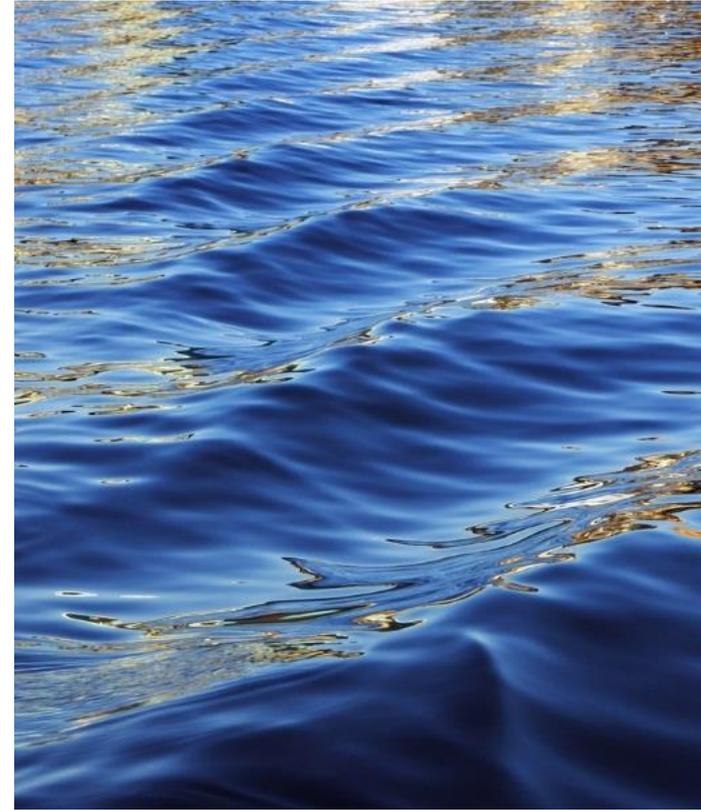


Module 4

Ideas on Research Topics for Young Inventors Journal



Series C: Economics, Entrepreneurship & Livelihood

Some Ideas for Research Topics

About This Document

1. The purpose of this document is to serve only as an example of how you may proceed in developing the ideas for your paper for this competition. This document is **optional** for you to read.
2. The outlines here are questions to get your creative juices flowing. They are not extensive ideas on any of the topics illustrated. You would need to further research and create an in-depth presentation for your paper, with a 'flow' that works best for the topic you choose.
3. Please remember that your paper **MUST** focus on one issue/problem with one solution only. This is due to the 'shortness' of the paper. Be specific and get straight to the point. Your paper has to be detailed and concise.

The paper you submit: basic general guidelines:

- ❖ Introduction to the topic or issue
- ❖ Explain why this is an important topic or issue
- ❖ Discuss the topic/issue in detail with in-depth research that may include data, statistics, charts, etc. (References to information used is a must). Remember that all you write about must be backed with evidence and/or reference. If you do not have evidence for a point – do not mention.
- ❖ Discuss your ideas on possible solutions to address the issues you identified
- ❖ Explain why you think these solutions would work (with evidence)
- ❖ Provide a solid conclusion to the topic you are presenting

NOTE: Most importantly, be as creative as you want; but be sure to have your facts, numbers and information checked for accuracy.

Example Outline on Economics, Entrepreneurship and Livelihood (EEL)

TOPIC: Preparing for EEL Post-COVID Era

Your in-depth research may look for answers to the questions such as:

1. How should we define EEL post-pandemic?
2. Are the general cultural issues attached to the issue you are studying still a deterrent for troubled people to seek help in this day and age?
3. What kinds of help can a person in the country look for should they need EEL?

4. What are the key indicators that show the EEL of a country having direct impact on its economic stability?

5. What can be done to raise greater awareness; and in what ways can digital tools be used for this?

Sample Ideas

TOPIC: Setting up a training centre to help single mothers set up their own business

If the above is your topic, your in-depth research can look for **some** answers to the following questions which are relevant:

1. What are the issues facing single mothers? Is it access to money? Is it the need to take care of the children whilst working? Is it ability to sell their project? Etc. etc.
2. What are the solution you can provide to help resolve the problem for single mothers so they may work? Keep in mind we are looking for one problem – one solution since your paper cannot be more then 5 pages long. Solve only one problem and detail it in the paper. If you have more ideas – you can always write another paper.
3. Your solution maybe a technology like an App or government policy or something another business or social enterprise may do?

4. Can you think of other solutions to your problem which are more unique? E.g. working from home – whereby the employee can stay at home and take care of the kids whilst working. What kind of technology and systems to help implement this are you proposing?

5. Your solution can be a general solution which can be used in many different circumstances or it can also be a very specific solution which is only for an area, community or scenarios. For example, you can propose single mothers living together and support each other taking care of the kids and work which is in specific location or community you have identified – so although the idea seems to be a good one – there may be many challenges of this solution but why you feel it may work in the area or community or the method that you have identified.

Idea: Time Bank

Time banking is a bartering system where services performed by a person is converted into labor-time as a unit of account instead of money. This time spend is deposited into a time bank which can be converted to money – or time in the future which can be withdrawn by the account owner when needed.

The labor-time as a unit of account are not generally accepted outside the membership of the time bank. However, time is something which was evenly distributed among people (i.e. we all have 24 hours a day – no matter how rich or poor one maybe).

For example, in Switzerland, **people can volunteer to look after the elderly and the number of hours they spend is deposited in their individual social security account.** When the volunteer reaches the age he/she can withdraw their deposit with being taken care by a volunteer.

Read more here:

“Time is money’: People in Switzerland can actually deposit their time in banks”,

<https://www.investopedia.com/terms/t/time-banking.asp>

<https://www.wionews.com/world/watch-time-is-money-people-in-switzerland-can-actually-deposit-their-time-in-banks-442315>

https://ssir.org/articles/entry/the_time_bank_solution

Ideas

There are many ideas out there for you to explore to help you get your creative juices flowing. One good site is the Stanford Social Innovation Review:

<https://ssir.org/>

There are many other websites like this which you can explore. Just use your search engines like google, Microsoft bing etc. to help you with find them.

Do I have to be an Expert to "complete" this paper?

This answer is NO. But you have to be disciplined by conducting research and justifying your opinion/ idea.

YIJ was set up as a learning tool for you. Most journals aim to push the boundary of knowledge. **We are more interested for you to push your own boundary of knowledge.**

Your idea does not need to be a new idea – but you can research and write about why this idea will be suitable for your community – justified with evidence. You can gather evidence in many way such as survey, questionnaires, experiments, tests etc.

Conclusion

Economic, Entrepreneurship and Livelihood is very important. We need to give it the priority and importance it deserves.

Please read the modules on the types of papers you can write for the competition.



Thank You

