

Guiding Questions for Planning, Revising, and Refining a Literature Review

1. What is the focus and aim of your review? Who is your audience?
2. Why is there a need for your review? Why is it significant?
3. What is the context of the topic or issue? What perspective do you take? What framework do you use to synthesize the literature?
4. How did you locate and select sources for inclusion in the review?
5. How is your review structured?
6. What are the main findings in the literature on this topic?
7. What are the main strengths and limitations of this literature?
8. What conclusions do you draw from the review? What do you argue needs to be done as an outcome of the review?