

Zhu Yin Xu (260432274)

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Reflection

I must admit that writing this essay turned out to be a challenge. This was mostly because the topic I chose was not the most ideal for finding sources here in Montreal. The project required many primary and secondary sources in Chinese, which I had a lot of trouble finding at first. Databases like Pubmed helped a lot, but did not provide enough primary sources that I could use. A bit helpless, I had to resort to Chinese search engines to try to find more relevant primary sources. Initially, I did not know how to do this and I had to go through some trial and error for myself. I realized that I was very limited in the journals that I could access from Canada. Luckily, I was still able to find a few good journals that I could access. I'm especially happy that I was able to find the journal called "Chinese Journal of Minimally Invasive Surgery" online and was able to access its database. Although the search option on the site was not ideal, it was still worth it to go through the past issues and look for the articles that I needed to use. Another source that I found very helpful was the Chinese section in the McGill McLennan Library. I was able to find many good historical sources that served as useful secondary sources and background information.

As a researcher, I think that the skill that I learned the most while doing this project is organization. Truthfully, I think that I had a few too many sources that when I actually started to write the essay, I felt like I lost track of all of my sources. I had information written everywhere but it was not organized at all. When I was actually going to write, it was almost as if I had to reread all my sources again. I did not know how to take proper organized notes. Although I had

taken notes on everything, I couldn't find the things that I needed to... I have now learned to organize my notes into proper sections or articles so that when I actually need it for my writing, I can find the material that I need.

All in all, writing this essay has taught me a lot about how to evaluate my resources properly first and then choose a suitable topic for what I had. I've also developed some better techniques of note-taking and organizing research information for later use.