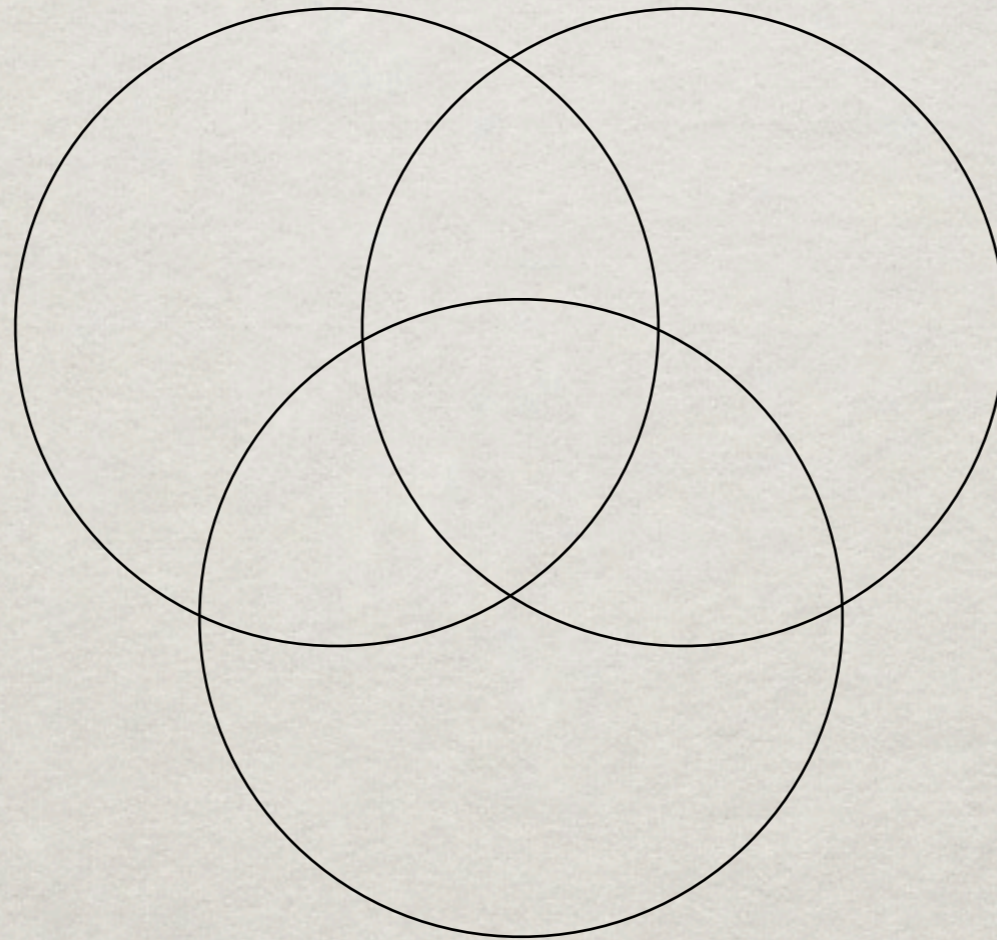


INTRO TO IPT 750

RICK WEST • BRIGHAM YOUNG UNIVERSITY

LEARNING BY FAITH

Find what you have in common with everyone in the group, what you have in common with just one other person, and what is unique about each person!



TODAY'S CLASS

- ✿ The value and purpose of literature reviews
- ✿ Selecting/narrowing/justifying a topic
- ✿ Understanding journal quality and selecting your target journal

A LITTLE PARABLE ...

“Being a writer, he is quite naturally curious about Heaven and Hell. So upon meeting Saint Peter at the pearly gates, he asks if it would be possible to visit Hell briefly before ascending to Heaven. Saint Peter, obliging as ever, is happy to grant the writer’s request. In a flash, they arrive in writer’s Hell where they feast their eyes upon thousands of writers planted in front of thousands of typewriters, arranged in rows as far as the eye could see, a damp, dark, foul place, full of the overpowering stench of decomposition and putrefaction. "Just as I expected," says the writer to Saint Peter. "I’m ready to see Heaven now."

In a flash, they arrive in writer’s Heaven where they feast their eyes upon thousands of writers planted in front of thousands of typewriters, arranged in rows as far as the eye could see, a damp, dark, foul place, full of the overpowering stench of decomposition and putrefaction. "But this is the same as Hell," the writer objects."

Not at all," says Saint Peter. "Their work is published."

— Heimpel, 1999

WHY SHOULD WE CARE ABOUT PUBLISHING?

WHAT MAKES IT PUBLISHABLE?

- A Good Literature Review is organized around a coherent set of questions.
- A Poor Literature Review rambles from topic to topic without a clear focus.

- A Good Literature Review includes the major landmark studies related to the questions guiding the study.
- A Poor Literature Review omits landmark or classic studies or mixes them with trivial studies without making distinctions about quality or relevance.

- A Good Literature Review critically evaluates the quality of the research according to clear criteria.
- A Poor Literature Review simply summarizes research findings without critical evaluation.

- A Good Literature Review uses quotes, illustrations, graphs, and/or tables to present and justify the critical analysis of the literature.
- A Poor Literature Review simply lists studies without presenting any critical evidence in the form of quotes, illustrations, graphs, and/or tables.

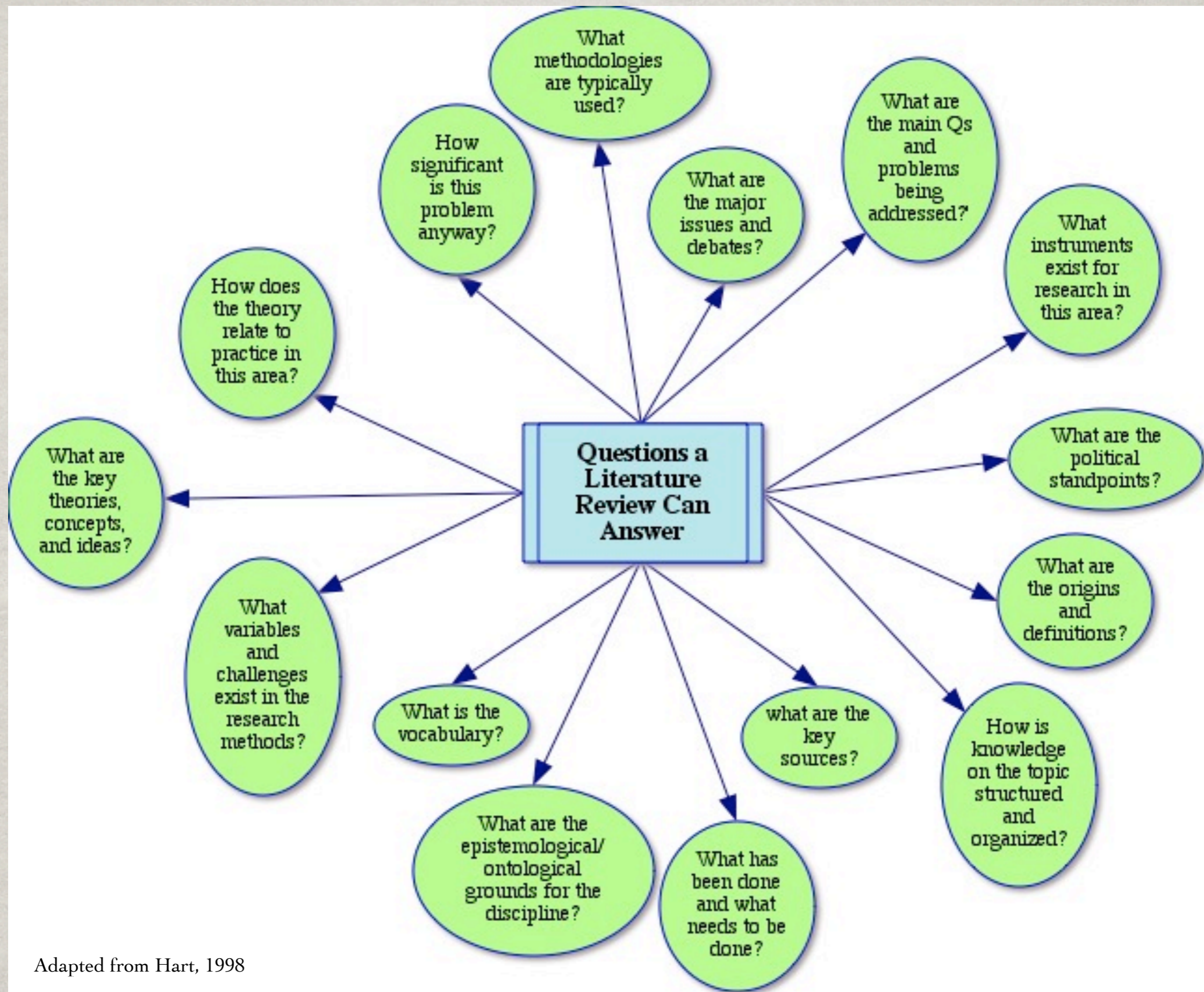
- A Good Literature Review takes the form of a logical argument that concludes with a clear rationale for additional research.
- A Poor Literature Review does not present a logical argument and fails to build a clear rationale.

- A Good Literature Review is interesting to read because it is clear, coherent, and systematic in its organization and presentation.
- A Poor Literature Review is boring or obtuse because of the overuse of jargon and pretentious language and the lack of organization.

- A Good Literature Review presents research evidence in a meaningful chronological order.
- A Poor Literature Review mixes studies from different decades without acknowledging chronological developments.

How are literature reviews different and similar to other published articles?

What contribution can literature reviews make to a topic?



Adapted from Hart, 1998

CLASS STRUCTURE

Problem Formulation

Literature Searching

Research Evaluation

Analysis & Interpretation

Writing & Structuring

Publishing & Presenting

Adapted from Cooper's (1998) 5 stages for writing literature reviews

CREATING A PROBLEM STATEMENT



HOW DO I FIND A TOPIC?

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- ✻ Those of you that have one, what are your suggestions?

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- ✻ Consultation with your committee
- ✻ What questions do you have? Have your questions been answered?

HOW DO I FIND A TOPIC?

- ✿ Those of you that have one, what are your suggestions?
- ✿ “Future research” of articles that excite you
- ✿ Consultation with your committee
- ✿ What questions do you have? Have your questions been answered?
- ✿ **DON'T** pick a topic to promote only your own agenda!

NARROWING YOUR REVIEW

- ✿ What do you already know about your topic?
- ✿ Why do you think your review is important?
- ✿ What question, specifically, are you trying to answer in your review?
- ✿ Where do you think you will start?

TARGETING JOURNALS: KNOW YOUR AUDIENCE



EVALUATING JOURNAL QUALITY

☼ Peer reviewed?

☼ Acceptance rate?

☼ Organizational affiliation?

☼ Editorial Board?

☼ Prestige?

☼ Impact factors?

☼ Publish or Perish?

☼ Accessibility?

☼ History?

BE WARY!

Your (real) Impact Factor

$$\text{Impact Factor (corrected)} = \frac{\begin{array}{l} \# \text{ times your work is cited} \\ - \# \text{ citations that actually trash your work} \\ - \# \text{ times you cited yourself (nice try)} \\ - \# \text{ times you were cited just to pad the introduction section} \\ - \# \text{ citations the editor pressured the author to include to increase the journal's impact factor} \end{array}}{\begin{array}{l} \# \text{ original articles you've written} \\ + \# \text{ articles you were included in out of pity or politics} \\ + \# \text{ not-so-original articles you've} \\ \quad \text{copied and pasted} \end{array}}$$

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MY EXAMPLE

Suggested Title: A NEW COMMUNITY FOR A NEW AGE: A MODEL OF COMMUNITIES OF INNOVATION AS A FRAMEWORK FOR UNDERSTANDING MODERN SOCIOCULTURAL LEARNING

Summary of Previous Research:

CoPs is well established framework, but not necessarily focused on creativity. Creativity research doesn't really focus on group aspects as a discipline, although a few people have. CoPs was developed in 1990s before the Internet---has working and interacting changed since then?

Rationale for a Literature Review:

Ubiquitous communication + ubiquitous information = collaborative creativity is the new economic reality. We need to be able to understand this and be able to teach it.

Literature Review Question:

1. What do we understand about learning communities and CoP? What are the major theoretical principles?
2. How well do learning communities and CoP theories fit within our emerging Web 2.0 society, culture, and practices?
3. What would be a more appropriate model of sociocultural learning for our modern context?

Key Sources of Literature to Utilize:

Creativity psychology; Sociocultural learning theory; Organizational behavior/development

Literature Review Methods: Historical overview of major works in the development of the theories. Not really clear on my additional methods.

Possible Target Journal: ETR&D

NEXT WEEK: LITERATURE SEARCHING

- ✻ How well do you know . . .
 - ✻ How to navigate different research databases?
 - ✻ Use services like *MyEric*?
 - ✻ Use bibliographic managers?
- ✻ What questions do you have? Areas you'd like to learn more about?

LEARN HOW TO READ

- Read what you need
- Read what is relevant
- Find the most important information in articles
- Know when to skim and when to dive
- Learn how to read faster
- Read what you want to be able to write

SOURCES

Cooper, H. (1998). *Synthesizing research: A guide for literature reviews*. Thousand Oaks: Sage.

Hart, C. (2001). *Doing a literature review: Releasing the social science research imagination*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.

Heimpel. (2005). Legitimizing Electronic Scholarly Publication: A Discursive Proposal. (2005, August 31). *Text.Serial.Journal*. Retrieved January 9, 2010, from <http://journals.sfu.ca/chwp/index.php/chwp/article/viewArticle/A.15>