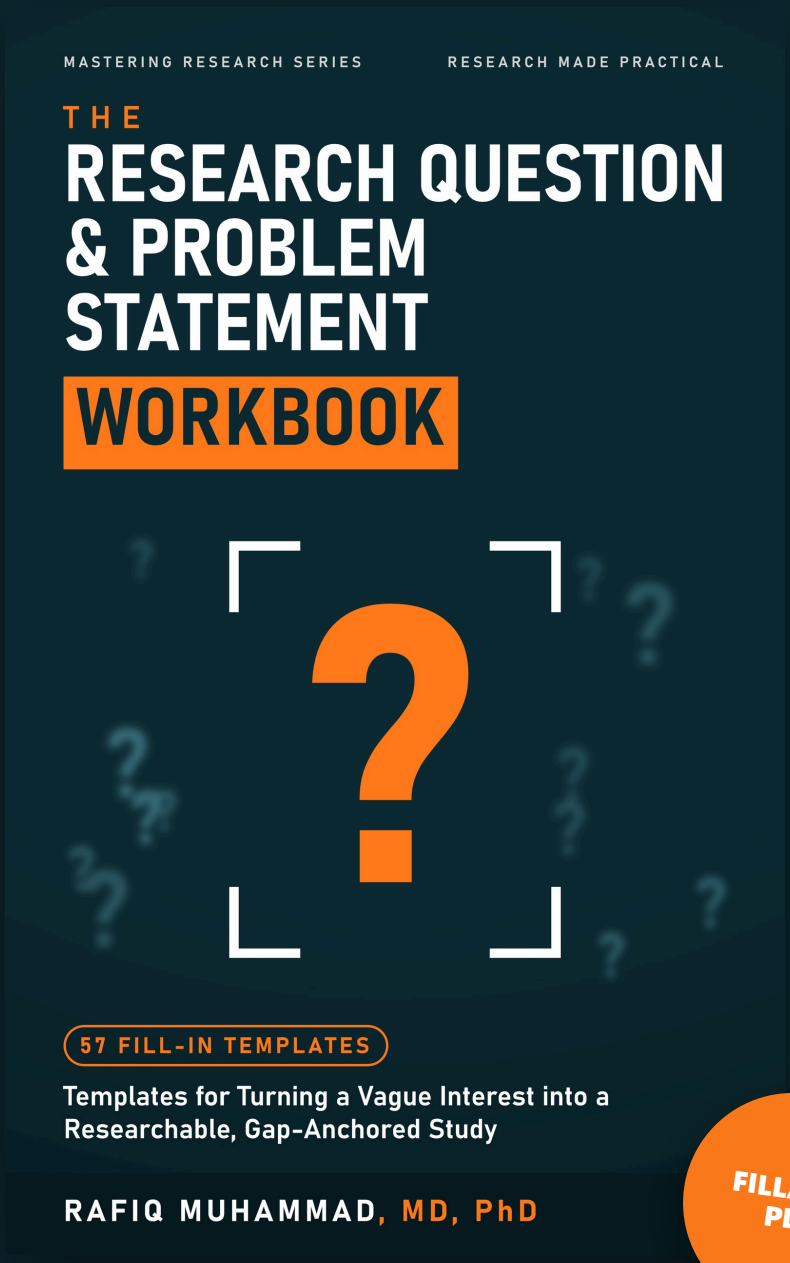
FILLABLE TEMPLATE KIT



FILLABLE PDF

The Research Question & Problem Statement Kit

57 fillable templates · US Letter & A4 · type, save, print

The companion kit to the workbook shown above. It contains the templates only. The chapters and the completed examples are in the book.

Rafiq Muhammad, MD, MIHMEP, PhD · Kit Edition 1.0 · 2026 · KIT-WB01

How to use this kit

This kit contains every fill-in template from *The Research Question & Problem Statement Workbook*, one per page, in the order you will use them. Each page tells you in a few lines how to fill it in.

> **On screen:** open the PDF in Adobe Acrobat Reader (free), Microsoft Edge, Google Chrome or macOS Preview. Click any white box and type; boxes grow to more lines where answers are long. Tick boxes with a click. **Save often** (Ctrl/Cmd + S) — your answers stay in the file.

> **On paper:** print any page; every box is sized for handwriting.

Working with a supervisor? Each template ends with a sign-off line, so you can bring pages to meetings as they are done.

First time doing this? The kit gives you the tools; the workbook teaches the method. *The Research Question & Problem Statement Workbook* explains every template and shows a completed example of each one, built around a single study from start to finish.

The workbook, with a completed example of every template: https://www.gradsummit.com/workbooks/research-question-problem-statement-workbook/

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Template map

57 templates in the order the workbook uses them. Click a row to jump to it; tick **Done** as you finish each one.

#	Template	Page	Done
Chapter 1 · From Curiosity to a Defensible Topic			
1.1	Interest Inventory & Motivation Audit	6	☐
1.2	The Topic-Narrowing Funnel	7	☐
1.3	Topic Scope Thermometer	8	☐
1.4	Working-Title Drafting Sheet	9	☐
Chapter 2 · Reading to Find the Conversation			
2.1	Quick-Scan Search Log	10	☐
2.2	"What We Know / What We Don't" Map	11	☐
2.3	Key Studies Snapshot Grid	12	☐
2.4	"Future Research" Harvest Sheet	13	☐
2.5	Concept & Keyword Bank	14	☐
Chapter 3 · Finding and Naming the Gap			
3.1	Gap-Type Identifier	15	☐
3.2	Gap Statement Builder	16	☐
3.3	Problematization Probe	17	☐
3.4	"So What?" Significance Test	18	☐
3.5	Gap-to-Contribution Map	19	☐
Chapter 4 · Writing the Problem Statement			
4.1	Problem Statement Anatomy Map	20	☐
4.2	Problem Statement Builder	21	☐
4.3	Evidence-of-the-Problem Worksheet	23	☐
4.4	Problem Statement Strength Rubric	24	☐
4.5	Before/After Rewrite Pages	25	☐
Chapter 5 · From Problem to Purpose Statement			
5.1	Purpose-Script Selector	26	☐
5.2	Quantitative Purpose Statement Builder	27	☐
5.3	Qualitative Purpose Statement Builder	28	☐
5.4	Mixed-Methods Purpose Statement Builder	29	☐
5.5	Purpose–Problem Consistency Check	30	☐
Chapter 6 · Crafting Research Questions			
6.1	RQ Type Selector	31	☐
6.2	Quantitative RQ Builder	32	☐
6.3	Qualitative RQ Builder	33	☐

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CHAPTER 3 · FINDING AND NAMING THE GAP

3.1 Gap-Type Identifier

Purpose: Name what kind of gap your study addresses — because the type determines how you will phrase and defend it.

Estimated time: 20–30 min

Completed example: Template 3.1 in The Research Question & Problem Statement Workbook.

How to fill this in

1. Read each gap type and its signal against what your Chapter 2 scan surfaced.
2. In the last column, mark whether the type is present — and cite the scan evidence (a study, a finding, a stated limitation).
3. Expect to tick two or three; note which feels strongest.

Gap Type	Signal in the Literature	Your Study — present? evidence
Evidence / Empirical	Findings are mixed, thin, or absent	
Population	A group is under-studied	
Methodological	Designs are limited or repetitive	
Theoretical	Existing theory doesn't explain a case	
Contextual / Temporal	Untested in a setting or timeframe	

Output: The one to three gap types your study addresses, each backed by evidence from your scan — the input to the Gap Statement Builder (3.2).

Supervisor sign-off	Date	Comments

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CHAPTER 5 · FROM PROBLEM TO PURPOSE STATEMENT

5.1 Purpose-Script Selector

Purpose: Choose the paradigm your purpose statement must signal — and the verbs that signal it correctly.

Estimated time: 15–20 min

Completed example: Template 5.1 in The Research Question & Problem Statement Workbook.

How to fill this in

1. Read the three intents and identify which matches what your problem (Ch. 4) calls for.
2. Note the signal verbs to use — and, just as important, the ones to avoid.
3. Record your paradigm and chosen verb in the capture box, then complete only the matching builder (5.2, 5.3, or 5.4).

If your intent is to…	Then your paradigm is…	Use these verbs	Avoid these verbs
…measure relationships, differences, or predictions among variables	Quantitative	examine the relationship, compare, predict, test	explore, understand, describe
…understand meaning, experience, or process in depth	Qualitative	explore, understand, describe, develop, discover	examine the relationship, compare, predict
…do both — integrate numeric and experiential evidence	Mixed Methods	examine + explore, then integrate / merge	verbs from only one paradigm

Your intent (from your problem)	Your paradigm	Your signal verb(s)

Output: A confirmed paradigm and verb family — and a decision about which builder (5.2/5.3/5.4) to complete.

Supervisor sign-off	Date	Comments

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End of the sample

This sample shows 2 templates: 3.1 Gap-Type Identifier; 5.1 Purpose-Script Selector.

The full The Research Question & Problem Statement Kit has 57 fillable templates, each on its own page, with the template map, bookmarks and a Done box for every template, in US Letter and A4.

You can buy the full kit on the page where you downloaded this sample.

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