Assignment 1: Informational Report

Purpose
Research is often used in technical writing to understand the fundamentals of a product design or to resolve a problem. For example, when I worked on a project at Ericsson, I had to understand the structure, framework, and components of a network before I could write the user manual for a specific router protocol. To gain this knowledge, I read books on network systems and interviewed engineers and subject matter experts (SME).

This assignment provides the research experience. Assignment 2 provides the interviewing experience.

Step 1: Select one of these topics. Each is a basic fundamental of technical writing:

- How is visual rhetoric applied in technical writing? Why is it important? How does it shape the document?
- What is adult learning theory? How could it be applied in technical writing? How does it shape the document?
- What is usability testing? How is it applied in technical writing? How does it shape the document?

Step 2: Submit your findings in a short report format.

- Report may be in memo or short report format.
- You must use headings and subheadings. (See Chapter 15.)
- Report length is 2-3 pages maximum.
- You must have a Works Cited page (2-3 sources).
- You must cite sources within the report.

Reference: Chapter 5: Research and Documentation