Taking a Research Topic... to a Question... to a Database

Research questions are made up of multiple concepts, subjects, or topics that the writer is putting together in one research paper. In this assignment, you will:

(1) Create a research question and write it in the blue box below;
(2) Pull out two to three separate concepts that make up your question. In the red box at the bottom of the page, write each concept on a separate line. This is your search strategy.
(3) Use your search strategy to perform a search in one of the databases listed in the green box.
(4) As you review your search results, write down any new synonyms or keywords you find.

Example Research Question: What leadership practices of school superintendents align with successful cases of urban school improvement?

Concept 1:

"school superintendents" OR "educational administrators" OR ""

AND

Concept 2:

"school improvement" OR "educational change" OR "improvement plans"

AND

Concept 3:

"urban schools" OR "urban education" OR

Your Research Question:

Choose one database to search: ERIC, Education Source, JSTOR