



RHETORICAL HISTORICAL RESEARCH PAPER – WIKIPEDIA ANALYSIS

DUE:

DIRECTIONS: Choose two historical/current events you might be interested in. Read the Wikipedia page for each of these two events. Then, type an analysis of a Wikipedia entry on your two topics. Please keep your analysis to four pages or fewer, double-spaced. Use MLA format for the document—standard 12-point font, and all appropriate headings.

1. Begin by setting up your page in MLA format (headings, title, etc.).
2. Write an MLA-format citation at the top of the page for the first current/historical event you choose (alphabetize the two sources!).
3. Next, list the search terms/keywords you used to find the page.
4. Then, write the annotation, in well-developed paragraphs and using a formal academic tone (though you may use first-person and be conversational):
 - a. Briefly summarize the contents of the page. Include **specific details** and cite parenthetically.
 - b. Discuss the tone of the page: anything controversial? Was anything edited or removed? Who is the author? Include a **direct quotation** to demonstrate your characterization of the tone/bias.
 - c. Aside from the text, what else provides useful information? (photos, timelines, sidebars, etc.)
 - d. Scroll down to the References section; list some sources you might find useful in your research, and explain why.
 - e. Reflect on what you have learned about these topics: How did this build on your prior knowledge? What surprised you? What was confirmed? What new questions do you have? Where do you see “tensions” developing as regards this topic? What is your personal investment or curiosity in this topic?
5. Repeat these steps for the second current/historical event you choose.
6. Reread, proofread, and revise your paper for accuracy and clarity. Be proud of your work!