

# Independent Research

In partners, you both will reflect on our year of studying History and consider what personal meaning you have found from it. You also both will demonstrate your mastery of the major skills we have practiced this year.

This project will be separated into 3 sections. Partners must successfully complete each section in order before they can move onto the next section. The 3 sections of this project are:

1. Written Reflection **(30 points)**
2. Further Reading and Research **(30 points)**
3. Artifact and Presentation **(15 points)**

In addition there will be a **Skill Check** in each section of the project. Each **Skill Check** will assess your mastery of a major skill that we focused on this year. The number of **Skill Checks** you complete will determine the highest grade you can earn on the project overall:

1. Partners who complete all 3 Skill Checks can earn up to 100%. **(25 points)**
2. Partners who complete 2 Skill Checks can earn up to 90%. **(15 points)**
3. Partners who complete 1 Skill Check can earn up to 73%. **(8 points)**

## Grading Example:

Below is an example of how grading will work for the project. Jen and Berry completed all 3 sections of the project effectively and were able to successfully complete 2 **Skill Checks**. Their overall grade was 88%.

Section/Skill Check	Completed	Score
Written Reflection	Yes	30/30
Skill Check #1	Yes	8/8
Further Reading and Research	Yes	30/30
Skill Check #2	Yes	7/7
Artifact and Presentation	Yes	13/15
Skill Check #3	No	0/10 <b>Total: 88/100</b>

**All information and writing for this project must be in your own words. Outside sources must be cited.**

# Part 1: Written Reflection (30 points)

Reflecting on our year of study together, please answer the following questions in two complete paragraphs:

1. What personal meaning did you discover through the study of the ancient world?
2. How do the ideas of power, legacy, and identity found in the study of the ancient world help us understand our world? \*Use a specific example from this year to show how you developed this meaning

Before you type up your reflection, complete the graphic organizer below.

**Paragraph 1:** What personal meaning did you discover through the study of the ancient world?

**Questions to address:** How do you making meaning in your life? How do you define the significant events of your life?

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**Questions to consider:** How do the significant events of our personal history help create our own identity? Why is reflection important? What bigger meaning about life did you find in our study of the ancient world this year?

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**Paragraph 2 (Skill Check):** How do the ideas of power, legacy, and identity found in the study of the ancient world help us understand our world? \*Use a specific example from this year to show how you developed this meaning.

**Theme selection (circle one):**

Power

Legacy

Identity

**How has this idea found in the study of the ancient world helped you understand our world?**

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**Which specific topics, lessons or units from this year could support this?**

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Once your facilitator has read your completed graphic organizer and approves, type up your response in a Google Document using MLA formatting.

On the back is an example of an MLA formatted reflection to help you format your reflection and the grading rubric to illustrate how all writing will be graded. Remember:

**All information and writing for this project must be in your own words. Outside sources must be cited. Failure to do so will result in the consequences outlined by our Academic Honesty Policy.**

### Formatting Example:

Daniel Cabrales

Kurt Vonnegut

Ancient History

2 May 2020

### Looking Back

I find meaning in my life by reflecting on the significant events of my past and creating a personal narrative. An event in my past is significant if it led to... The lessons we learn from reflecting on the major events in our help us understand who we are today, and helps... Similarly, we study the ancient world to find meaning in the artifacts and documents of the ancient world. Through my study of the ancient world, I have discovered...

The study of ancient history reminds me that the circumstances humans find themselves in changes across different regions, cultures and times. However, a common human trait appears in many cultures and regions throughout History...

### Writing Rubric

Did your reflection:	Points:	Comments:
Thoughtfully, clearly, and effectively answer the questions?		
Include effective transitions to connect thinking and writing clearly together?		
Have specific, relevant, and persuasive examples to support your insight?		
Follow grammar and spelling expectations for graded writing?		
Follow MLA formatting?		

**Far Below:** 0-2 Points

**Approaching:** 3-4 Points

**Proficient:** 5-5.5 points

**Mastery:** 6 points

## Part 2: Further Reading and Research (30 points)

For part two, please carefully read and research your selected chapter and effectively complete the graphic organizer below with clearly written detail to showcase your understanding.

**Selected Chapter:**

1. What changed during this time period?

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2. What caused or influenced this change?

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3. Why is this historical time period significant today?

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What was one significant event and person in your chapter?

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Identify and explain a major theme of the chapter (power, legacy, identity, etc).

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What personal meaning did you discover in your research of this time period?

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**Skill Check:** Research and make a connection from this historical time period to modern history (1600s CE to now) and cite a source in your to support this connection using MLA formatting. Your modern connection should be an event later in History influenced or caused by the time period you read about.

**Example:** A modern connection to Ancient Greek Democracy would be the U.S. Constitution which borrowed heavily from the representative democracy the Ancient Greeks developed (National Geographic Society 2019). The Framers of the Constitution would use Greek democratic practices like citizenship, election of government officials, and making decisions through voting (National Geographic Society 2019).

What is your Modern Connection:

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How was this influenced or caused by the ancient time period you studied:

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**Source:**

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**Example of MLA format for citing an online source:**

National Geographic Society. "Greek Influence on U.S. Democracy." *National Geographic*, National Geographic Society, 15 Mar. 2019, [www.nationalgeographic.org/news/greek-influence-us-democracy/](http://www.nationalgeographic.org/news/greek-influence-us-democracy/), Accessed 4 May 2019.

## Part 3: Google Slides Presentation (15 points)

Create a Google Slide presentation about your personal reflection and research. In addition, select/create an artifact to represent the meaning you have found this year in studying the ancient world.

**Skill Check:** Practice and deliver a three to four minute Google Slides presentation in front of the class.

Your Google Slides must help you answer the following questions during your presentation:

1. What historical time period did you study on your own?
2. What was it like to research a historical time period on your own?
3. What personal meaning did you discover through the study of the ancient world?
4. What is your artifact?
5. How does it represent the meaning you have found this year in History?

### Google Slides Rubric

Far Below	Approaching	Proficient	Mastery
Information on slides were largely inaccurate or lacking in detail	Information on slides accurate but lacking detail or depth	Information on slides were accurate and provided detail	Information on slides were accurate and provided detail with depth
Slides lacked structure or editing to highlight information clearly for a presentation	Slides were structured but needed editing to highlight information clearly for a presentation	Slides were structured and edited to highlight information clearly for a presentation.	Slides were structured and edited to highlight key information clearly to help make the presentation more engaging.
Slides did not answer successfully the required questions	Slides partially answered the required questions	Slides answered the required questions	Slides effectively and clearly answered the required questions



## Presentation Rubric

Far Below	Approaching	Proficient	Mastery
<p>Presenter(s) made little or no eye contact with the audience.</p> <p>Presenter(s) was difficult to hear throughout the presentation.</p> <p>Presenter(s) did not seem to have practiced their presentation beforehand.</p> <p>Presenter(s) seemed nervous or anxious throughout the presentation</p> <p>Presenter(s) either exceeded or was under the time requirement.</p> <p>Information was not clearly presented.</p>	<p>Presenter(s) made minimal eye contact with the audience.</p> <p>Presenter(s) was difficult to hear at times during the presentation.</p> <p>Presenter(s) seemed to need more practice presenting beforehand.</p> <p>Presenter(s) seemed slightly nervous during sections of the presentation</p> <p>Presenter(s) either slightly exceeded or slightly under the time requirement.</p> <p>Information presented was missing details and explanations</p>	<p>Presenter(s) made a fair amount of eye contact with the audience.</p> <p>Presenter(s) was easily heard through most of the presentation.</p> <p>Presenter(s) seemed to have practiced enough beforehand.</p> <p>Presenter(s) was confident and sure of themselves</p> <p>Presenter(s) met time requirement.</p> <p>Information presented was appropriately explained.</p>	<p>Presenter(s) made consistent eye contact with the audience.</p> <p>Presenter(s) was easily heard throughout the entire presentation.</p> <p>Presenter(s) was quite familiar with the material and seemed to have practiced a tremendous amount beforehand.</p> <p>Presenter(s) was calm, confident, and sure of themselves</p> <p>Presenter(s) met the time requirement.</p> <p>Information presented was clearly explained in good detail.</p>