

“Living History Museum”

RESEARCH PAPER and PRESENTATION

Essential Parts of the Research Paper

Pre-Search:

- Choose a famous Historical person you want to research. Write down **why** you want to research that person and turn it in to your teacher for approval.
- Fill out a KWL chart on your character.
- Write down related questions to help determine the focus of your research.

Notes: Research your character’s past:

- What was life like for the character?
- Was the character a peasant, worker, upper society, powerful, etc.?
- What significant events shaped the character’s life?
- If the character immigrated, what was his/her native land like? Where was it? How far away? Why did the character leave?

Notes: Research your character’s present:

- Where does your character live during the time being studied? (Country, State, Town, farm, etc). How does this affect your character’s lifestyle?
- How does your character dress? How do the people in the area dress?
- What language does your character speak?
- What does your character’s home look like? What is it made of?
- What is your character’s job?

Notes: Research what your character is famous for:

- What did your character invent or do that made them famous?
- How did they accomplish this?
- Why did they invent or do what they did?
- Add any other interesting information about your character.

Synthesize Information:

- Think about what you found and decide on a focus.
- Use a graphic organizer to synthesize your information. (Beginning, middle, end;
- Go through each source to make sure it is trustworthy, accurate, and relevant to your topic.

Write your paper:

- Develop a thesis statement. The thesis statement helps the writer determine the essay's real focus. What are you trying to say with the evidence you found?
- Write topic sentences that summarize the information you found. You should have at least **five paragraphs**. Beginning, three middle paragraphs that give us information about, and a concluding paragraph.
- Include quotations and evidence from multiple sources.

Works Cited: Create a works-cited page to acknowledge your sources. You **MUST** use at least three references. Examples include books, encyclopedia, the internet, etc.

Write your presentation:

- Your presentation will be no more than one minute long.
- You will **become** this Historical person for the in-class presentation and school presentation.
- You must be able to explain who the person is and why he/she is famous.
- Practice and memorize your presentation.
- You will **dress up** as that person and use a prop as needed on the day of your presentation.

Poster:

- You will make a poster about your character
- This poster will be displayed behind you during the in-class and school presentations.
- The poster must contain a picture of your character and important facts and information about them. Your poster should be neat with no large “blank spots”.