BIOGRAPHY RESEARCH PROJECT

ELA/SIXTH GRADE

FLANAGAN

WHO HAVE YOU CHOSEN TO RESEARCH?

By now, you have selected a person of historical significance to research. You should be acquiring sources, for your research. You must have at least two books for your research. Remember, the book need not be about your famous person specifically. If your person was involved in civil rights issues or in aviation, books about the subject matter may reference your individual.

The instructions and timeline for the project follow. Please pay close attention to the days you will be working in the classroom. Your focus within the class is essential for your success on this project. Time will be given for writing. Use this time efficiently.

BIOGRAPHY RESEARCH REPORT/ TIMELINE

This timeline is a GUIDE. Students may move forward if they complete a task before the scheduled date. I will be grading as each step is reviewed.

1.   MONDAY, JUNE 9th- Bring in two books for your research project and , if possible, note cards to create notes for your project. I will have some in class. If you have found other sources from the internet, library or Instagrok you will using these as well. We will be working on notecards in class. You will receive two points for each notecard up to fifteen. Know that they must be categorized by topic heading. You must have a page number and source (book, website from which you took information)on your card. ALL INFORMATION SHOULD BE PARAPHRASED. NO PLAGIARISM. Each card should offer new, unique information about your person's life. I will spend time Monday showing you how these should look. I have posted a slide show on my webpages that will help you with notecards. Please access it to help you with this task.

2.   TUESDAY, JUNE 10th- Continue with notecards. I will be expecting you to have these complete on Wednesday, the 11th.

3.   WEDNESDAY, JUNE 11TH- Works Cited page (Bibliography) We will talk about this in class. You will work on your own in class. You should leave class with a finalized Works Cited page for your project. If you do not, use time at home. You will place this in Dropbox when complete. LABEL THIS - WORKS CITED.

        WED. , JUNE 11th- I will also be checking and grading your notecards this day. I will do so while you work on your Works Cited Page.

4.   THURSDAY, JUNE 12th- Complete the outline in your packet using your notecards. If you have taken strong notes on your notecards you should be able to do this without returning to your books or sources. This should be done at the end of class. If not, continue this for homework.

5.   FRIDAY, JUNE 13th - You will choose a presentation method/ app for your biography. You will NOT be writing a paper, but presenting through this presentation. You should have 3-5 informative slides about your person. Remember it is important your slide is merely a guide for your oral presentation. In a presentation, full sentences are not needed. You can bullet your facts. Make it visually pleasing, but add enough information that you will be able to present, NOT READ to the class. You will use whatever presentation method you chose.

6.   Please review the rubric for details. Your presentation should be complete by Tuesday, May 17th at the end of class.

7.   Presentations will begin on the 17th. YOU WILL BE PLACING YOUR PRESENTATIONS IN YOUR ELA DROPBOX FOR ME. YOU WILL ALSO SUBMIT YOUR OUTLINE TO ME ON THE 17TH.

RESOURCES/INFORMATION TO HELP YOU

Note Cards

When you begin taking notes, decide upon the topic headings. You should refer to the OUTLINE to help you. Include facts, anecdotes, or statistics that you think will later be useful when putting the project information together for your presentation.

Use your own words as often as possible. This helps you to focus on reading for comprehension. You have to think about what you're reading, process the information, and analyze and synthesize the material before you write it in your own words. This is great practice for research that you will do in the future. Get in the habit now. (See example #1)

Don't plagiarize! Plagiarism is the dishonest practice of presenting another person's ideas or language as your own. If you find a particular statement or brief passage that is particularly interesting or said better than you could state in your own words, then copy them word for word and enclose them in quotation marks. If you paraphrase statements of another author, but your words/ideas closely resemble the author's, you must give credit by citing the author. (See example #2)

All note cards must include the following: the title of the source from which the information was obtained in the top right corner, one of the subtopics you across the top, **3-4 facts (depending on the length – don't go onto the back of a car**d), the page number from the source in the bottom right corner.

#1 Using bullets or numbers to organize information

Spiritual Beliefs of Native American	*The Religious Practices of Native Americans*, Brown, Julia

1. Although the culture of the early Mississippian tribes has died out, many Indian groups protest the practice of displaying their ancestors' skeletons and artifacts.
2. These artifacts are considered spiritual icons and are revered by the tribesmen.
3. Chief Takahosett of the Sioux tribe mentions "Disturbing the resting place of our ancestors disrupts the balance between the living and dead" (53)
4. Departed souls cannot rest if uncovered and publicly displayed according to most Native Americans.

pp. 2-3 of 6 (web)

#2 Paragraph format for notes

Spiritual Beliefs of Native Americans   *The Religious Practices of*
                                                                                    Native Americans,
                                                                                    Brown, Julia

Tribe leaders believe that the souls of the departed cannot rest if uncovered and displayed. (p. 25) James Yellowbank states "We want them reburied properly and left alone" (p. 29) The problem of dealing with the final resting place of early native Americans is that will the urbanization of reservation land, no one knows the right way to deal with the remains of early ancestors. For now, it appears that the spiritual needs of the tribes come before the financial development of certain Indian territories.   pp. 2-3 of 6 (web)

Works Cited Page

Q: What is a works cited page?

A: A works cited page simply lists (alphabetically) all of the sources that you ***used*** for your note taking.

Q: How do I begin my works cited page?

1.   Organize your note cards. For each different source found in the upper right hand corner highlight it in a new color.
     Ex. Cards 1-5 had information from *The Religious Practices of Native Americans*,
               Brown, Julia

     HIGHLIGHT THESE CARDS YELLOW WHERE THE TITLE IS

     Cards: 6-9 had information from *Native American Lives*, Smith, Robert

     HIGHLIGHT THESE CARDS BLUE WHERE THE TITLE IS

     Cards: 7-12 had information from Native American website- http:// native-american/lives/ org.

     HIGHLIGHT THESE CARDS PINK WHERE THE TITLE IS

2.   You should begin your Works Cited page by reviewing the MLA formatting for each different type of source. (Books, Encylopedia, article from website).

SEE EXAMPLES HERE:

FOR A BOOK:

Author's last name, first name. <u>Title of book</u>. Place of publication: Publisher, copyright year.

*If the book has two or three authors, list them both starting with the one whose last name comes first alphabetically, and then write the other author(s) with first name and then last name.

*If the book has more than three authors, list the one whose last name comes first alphabetically followed by the phrase et al.

examples:

Fogle, Bruce. <u>Training Your Dog</u>. New York: DK Publishing, 1997.

Anderson, Leah, and Neal Lerner. *Managing Your Money: A Consumer's Guide to Overcoming Debt*.

　　Boston, MA: Warner Publishing, 2010. <mark>(Use italics when typing and underlining when writing titles.)</mark>

Sullivan, Laurence, et al. *Discovering the Hidden Secrets Beyond the Bermuda Triangle*. Cincinnati, OH:

　　Time-Warner Co., 2011.

FOR AN ENCYCLOPEDIA ARTICLE:

Article author's last name, first name. "Title of article." <u>Name of encyclopedia</u>. Copyright year.

*If there is no author, begin with the title of the article.

*If the article has two or three authors, list them both starting with the one whose last name comes first alphabetically, and then write the other author(s) with first name and then last name.

*If the article has more than three authors, list the one whose last name comes first alphabetically followed by the phrase et al.

examples:

Clark, William W. "Gothic Art." <u>World Book Encyclopedia</u>. 2010 ed.

"Understanding Leonardo DaVinci." <u>Encyclopedia Britannica</u>. 2008 ed. (no author provided)

FOR A MAGAZINE OR NEWSPAPER ARTICLE:

Article author's last name, first name. "Title or headline of article." <u>Name of magazine or newspaper</u>. Date of magazine or newspaper: page(s).

*Follow the same directions as above for books with multiple authors.

*If there is no author, begin with the title or headline of the article.

example:

McGill, Kristy. "A Baltic Scam." *Faces*. May 2008: 27.

FOR A WEBSITE:

Author's last name, first name. (if provided) "Title of article/site." *Sponsor or publisher, name of site*, date of resource creation or last update. Type of medium (Web). Date you accessed the site.

*If there is no author, begin with the title of the item.

*If you can't find the date of creation, skip that item.

example:

DiStefano, Vince. "Guidelines for Better Writing". *Purdue University Writing Center*, 5 October 2008. Web.

    10 October 2011.   (Note: MLA no longer requires you to write out the URL.)

FOR AUDIOVISUAL MATERIALS:

<u>Title of material</u>. Type of material. Place of publication: Publisher, copyright date.

example:

<u>Bizet's Dream</u>. Videotape. New York: Sony Wonder, 1995.

3. For this style of works cited page, list all of your **web sites without a title or name** last on your page.
4. Create a rough draft of your Works Cited page. Be sure sources are in alphabetical order by whatever word comes first for that particular type of source.
5. Type the works cited page using MLA guidelines. Be very careful about indentation and punctuation.
6. Label your page **Works Cited**, and then add the title of your project and your name (This is slightly different from MLA guidelines.)

7. Follow the rest of the steps below:
   a. Use hanging indentation when a citation continues to a second or third line
   b. Double-space the typing of the citation. Do not place any extra spacing between citations. **DO NOT NUMBER YOUR CITATIONS**.
   c. Use either italics **or** underlining for titles of books and magazines. Do not mix the two choices.
   d. Remember to alphabetize correctly
   e. If you have web sites without a title or author's name, then type them in order at the end. **No more than three web sites can be cited.**
   f. A total of 3 sources should be listed—no more or less. Label the page **Works Cited** .

Q: **When I finish typing my works cited page, what should I do?**

A: Your responsibility includes proofreading your works cited page. Double check/triple check that it has been completed according to the MLA guideline samples. See below.

Q: **When I have proofread the Works Cited page what should I do?**

A: Put your Works Cited page in DropBox. You should name it WORKSCITED, and you should save it as a flattened PDF file.

Works Cited

"The Politics of Thomas Jefferson" by Sample Student

Anderson, J. "Thomas Jefferson's Legacy." *New Republic*. 8 April 1991: 25 (4).

Christie, John S. "Fathers and Virgins: Garcia Marquez's Faulknerian *Chronicle of a Death Foretold*." *Latin American Literary Review*. Fall 1993: 21-29.

God's Role in the Politics of the Founding Fathers. Videocassette. Chicago, Illinois: PBS Video, 12003.

Jefferson, Thomas, et al. *Common Sense, A Summary View of the Rights of British America, Thoughts on Government and the Speeches of Washington: Important Early American Political Writing Including Declaration of Independence and the U.S. Constitution.* Philadelphia, PA: Lippincott, 1967.

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https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/05/

USE MAY ALSO USE THE EXAMPLES FROM THIS WEBSITE TO HELP WITH FORMATTING OF YOUR WORKS CITED PAGE. YOU MAY ALSO USE NOODLE TOOLS TO HELP CREATE YOUR WORKS CITED PAGE IF YOU KNOW HOW TO USE THIS LIBRARY TOOL.

SEE MS. TERSOFF'S HELPFUL HINTS ABOUT WORKS CITED PAGES.
http://www.norwellschools.org/Page/4289

Attached is an MLA guide. The guide was found on the following website

http://www.trumbullps.org/mms/library/documents/mlaguide_000.pdf

 Please see me or Ms. Tersoff if you have trouble with your citations. It is important that you learn how to create a Works Cited page.

Biography Report Outline Worksheet   **_____**

I. **Opening**

    A. Name of Person:

    B. Interesting Fact/quote/story about person with dates (A+B can be reversed. See example)

_____

_____

_____

_____

    C. Another fact or quote (if applicable)

_____

_____

_____

II. **Early Life**

    A.   **Date of Birth_____**

    B.   **Place of Birth_____**

    C.   **Family_____**

               _____

    D.   **Education_____**

               _____

    E.   **Hobbies, interests (if applicable)_____**

               _____

    G.   **Family/Marriage_____**

               _____

III.   Accomplishments/Reason Historically Significant

    A.   Accomplishment one

    _____
    _____

    B.   Accomplishment two   (if applicable)

    _____
    _____

    C.   Accomplishment three (if applicable)

    _____
    _____

    D   Other interesting facts: awards, achievements, etc.

    _____

    _____ _____

III.   Conclusion:

    A.   How accomplishments have affected world, history, society today

    _____

    _____

    B.   Lessons learned from this person

    _____

    _____

RUBRIC FOR RESEARCH REPORT/PRESENTATION

1.   NOTECARDS- UP TO THIRTY POINTS   **_____/30**

- Student has 10-15 notecards. All with new information on each card.
    Each card has been labeled with a SUBJECT/TOPIC area that supports the outline.
- The source of the information has been noted as well as the page number.
- NO PLAGIARISM.
    COMMENTS:

2. WORKS CITED PAGE - UP TO TWENTY-FIVE POINTS   **_____/25**

- Student has at least three sources (two books) . No more than one encyclopedia.
- Student has a typed Works Cited Page.
- The Works Cited Page follows MLA format as shown in class.
    COMMENTS:

3. OUTLINE - Completed fully - UP TO TWENTY-FIVE POINTS   **_____/25**
- The outline was fully completed using notecards.
- It is legible and neat.
- Interesting facts/accomplishments are noted.
- Quotes are indicated by proper punctuation and source indicated.
- It is evident student has used his or her own words.
    COMMENTS:

4. PRESENTATION -   up to 5 slides   UP TO TWENTY POINTS   _____/20
- Information from biography has been presented on a presentation app of student's choice.
- The information is a strong representation of the research done of the individual of interest.
- The information can be read easily and is not blocked or clouded by text.
- There are some visuals that represent the person's life. These are cited.
- The information has been properly edited for punctuation, grammar and capitalization.
- Student presents his or her presentation with full eye contact in a strong voice that demonstrates knowledge of his or her person's life.
- The presentation was NOT read.
    COMMENTS:

                              TOTAL POINTS _____/100