Topic Selection Page

Complete the following page to guide your research for the project.

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| --- | --- |
| * **Local Community**   Choosing this option, you will research an issue that faces a very specific part of the world. It should be something like a city, a village or a community of people.   * **Region within a Country**   This option includes a slightly larger area. It could be a state or province within a country, a geographic region like a mountain range or coastal plain, or it could be a cultural region within a country.   * **Country**   This option will allow you to examine an issue facing an entire country.   * **Region of the World**   This option will allow you to focus on a group of countries, a geographic region, a continent, or a cultural group that goes beyond one country’s borders. An example might be the ASEAN community. | * **Comparative**   This is the option that allows for the largest scope. Choosing this option will mean that your research will compare two very different peoples, regions, countries, cultures, time periods, or some other category decided by you and approved by your teacher. You will compare them to see how the two examples you have chosen are similarly and/or differently affected by the issue you have chosen. |

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Fill out the following sections. Be sure to check for final approval from your teacher before you begin your research.

Research Scope:

Research Topic:

Research Question:

TASK MANAGEMENT SHEET

This sheet is used to document the contributions of each member of the group. You should include a detailed description of what each group member accomplished each day. In addition, you must keep a written (paper) version with a short summary of the planned tasks on the desk. Students who are off-task or are not working will have points deducted from their final grade. You can expand this table to include more days by using the ‘Tables’ feature on Microsoft Word.

Student Name / Date Task

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**EVALUATING THE CREDIBILITY OF YOUR SOURCES**

Remember, sources are used to support and prove an argument you have made. This means that the sources you reference need to be credible and authoritative. How do you know that your sources are of value? Answer the following questions:

(You can copy and paste for each additional source used)

1. Where / How was the source published?

* What is the organization that published this? Why should we trust information from this publishing organization?

2. Who wrote it? (Author / Organization)

* You can do some quick online research into the author. Is the author part of a university or another institution? What else has the author written? Why should we trust this author?

3. Is the piece timely and appropriate for its field? (Updated or outdated?)

* For some topics, information needs to be current and up to date. For others, older publications might still be valuable. Do you think the source is up to date enough for your topic? Why?

4. What is the purpose of the source? Does the author have an agenda?

* Are the arguments backed by facts or opinions? Is the presented view biased?

5. Source (APA format):

**The following is a list of possible products for your project. If you have another idea, you may submit it to your teacher for approval.**

**Requirements:**

* The product must answer the Research Question that you created and was approved by your teacher.
* The product must be created by you and/or your group. It must not be plagiarized in any way.
* The final product must be appropriate for the number of people you have working in your group.

**Possible Final Products:**

* Infographic
* Concept Map
* Illustrated Timeline
* Prezi Presentation \*This should likely include a video of you presenting, especially if you have a large group
* Informational Brochure or Pamphlet
* Booklet
* Newspaper Article
* Magazine Article
* Essay (informational, thesis, etc)
* Report – informational, the type that might be presented at an organizational meeting
* Editorial, Opinion Piece (for newspaper) or Satirical Piece
* Letter to a world leader
* Issue Awareness Campaign
* Speech
* Website
* Comic Strip
* Art Work (drawing, painting, etc) \*This option will likely require a written component which makes it clear how the art work answers your Big Question
* Musical Composition / Poem - \*This option will likely require a written component which makes it clear how the musical piece / poem answers your Big Question
* Narrative / Story
* Newscast
* Animation or Video
* Advertisement / Propaganda Video
* Construct a debate

Restate your Research Question:

Explain how this product will prove your thesis and incorporate your research:

Explain the scale of this product and how the product is appropriate for the number of people in your group:

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Unsatisfactory  10-13 points | Needs Improvement  14-17 points | Satisfactory  18-21 points | Excellent  22-25 points  **In addition to all satisfactory conditions it also contains one or more of these features:** |
| Research    25 points | Evidence is missing or totally inaccurate  Evidence is unrelated or unreasonable  Research requirements are missing or incomplete  Sources are unreliable and/or unrelated | Evidence is based on some misinformation  Some evidence does not clearly support main points  Research requirements are completed incorrectly (ex: not in APA format)  Some sources are questionable or unrelated | Evidence is based on **accurate** information  Evidence clearly **supports** main points  Research requirements are all completed and correct  All sources are **credible** & **reliable**  All sources are **relevant** to the topic | All evidence greatly adds credibility to students’ thesis  Evidence is taken from scholarly, peer reviewed, and/or highly credible sources only |
| Focus & Thesis  25 points | No clear thesis is present  Project does not address the thesis and/or research questions at all | Thesis is unclear or unoriginal  Project does not clearly support the thesis and/or research questions | Student work contains a clear **thesis**  Project clearly **support**s the thesis statement and answers the research questions | Thesis is original, highly creative, and inquisitive  Project supports thesis in a variety of creative ways |
| Professionalism  25 points | Required documents are missing or incomplete  Project is incomplete  Communication is unpracticed and incomprehensible | Some required documents are completed incorrectly  Project is not ready for presentation  Communication of ideas and information is somewhat unclear | All required documents are **completed** correctly  Project is neat, organized, and complete for presentation and/or **due date**  Communication in project is **practiced and effective** | Students take great pride in the presentation of their work  Communication is highly professional and tailored to the audience |
| Creativity & Effort  25 points | Work contains little evidence of creativity or originality  Students are consistently off task  Project is incomplete or rushed | Work has been paraphrased or is unoriginal  Students are occasionally off task  Project does not appear completely finished, though all elements are there. | Project contains **original** work from the students  Students add **unique** elements to project  Students are **on task** at all times  Project is **polished** and complete | Project contains completely original elements designed by the students  Project is highly practiced and/or polished |