

HISTORY DAY Project Checklist – Historical Paper

Student Name		
Paper Title		
Process Paper Word Count (Max: 500)	Paper Word Count (Req: 1,500-2,500)	

GENERAL RULES

\checkmark	Requirement:	
	My topic clearly relates to the annual theme.	
	I have read the Contest Rule Book.	
	I have independently researched and written this paper in this contest year. No research was reused from	
	previous projects, whether my own or research belonging to other students.	
	This is an original entry. I have participated in only one entry. I did not share my work with other students.	
	I have not used any improper assistance.	
	I understand that using someone else's work without proper credit is plagiarism and will result in disqualification.	

PAPER RULES

 Requirement:	
My paper is an original creation, showing my historical research, analysis, and argument in a written format.	
My paper is grammatically correct.	
The paper is between 1,500 and 2,500 words. My word count includes the following:	
 Text that I have written within the paper itself (not the bibliography, process paper, etc.) 	
 Captions or words in footnotes/endnotes other than the citation 	
 Quotations from primary and secondary sources 	
The word count for my historical paper appears on my title page.	
If I have included any images, maps, graphs, or primary source materials in an appendix (this is not required),	
they are directly referenced in the text of the paper and cited in the annotated bibliography. Appendices are	
limited.	
I have chosen a method of citation (footnotes, endnotes, or internal citations) and I have credited quotes and the sources of idea or information throughout my paper consistently in either Chicago or MLA style.	
My paper is printed on plain, white 8.5 x 11-inch paper (A4 paper for international affiliates), double-sided, with	
1-inch margins on all sides.	
My paper is double-spaced and is printed in 12-point font.	
Pages are numbered.	
My paper is stapled in the top left hand corner or secured with a clip. I have not enclosed the paper in a binder or cover of any kind.	

WRITTEN MATERIALS for the PAPER CATEGORY

 Requirement:	
My paper has a title page containing the following:	
o Title of the paper	
o My name	
 Junior OR Senior Division 	
 Historical Paper 	
 Number of words in the historical paper 	
 Number of words in the process paper 	
No other information (school, state, teacher, course) is contained on this page.	
Following my title page is a process paper. My process paper addresses the following questions in no more than	
500 words:	
 How did you choose your topic and how does it relate to the annual theme? 	
 How did you conduct your research? 	
 How did you create your project? 	
 What is your historical argument? 	
 In what ways is your topic significant in history? 	
My process paper does not include quotes, images, or captions.	
I cited the sources for quotes or other information included in my paper. Credit has been given properly using	
 footnotes/endnotes in Chicago Manual of Style format (or internal citations in MLA format).	
My annotated bibliography contains the following:	
 A complete list of all sources used to create this project 	
• Annotations for each source	
In addition:	
 My annotated bibliography is separated into two sections—one for primary sources, another for secondary sources. 	
 My annotations describe how I used the source and how it helped me understand my topic. 	
 If I used several items from the same collection, they are combined into a single citation. 	
I did not attach primary or secondary materials to my annotated bibliography.	
My paper is assembled in the following order and stapled/clipped in the upper left corner:	
 Title page 	
 Process paper 	
 Historical paper (with foot/endnotes or internal documentation) 	
 Appendix (optional) 	
 Annotated bibliography 	
I did not enclose these materials in a binder or folder.	

I certify that this National History Day project is the result of my unique academic work. All assistance and sources are properly credited.

Signed: _____

Date: _____



NHD NATIONAL HISTORY DAY Project Checklist – Performance

Student Name(s)		
Performance Title		
Process Paper Word Count (Max: 500)	Length of Performance (Max: 10 minutes)	

GENERAL RULES

\checkmark	Requirement:	
	My/our topic clearly relates to the annual theme.	
	I/we have read the Contest Rule Book.	
	I/we have independently researched and created this performance in this contest year. No research was reused	
	from previous projects, whether my/our own or research belonging to other students.	
	This is an original entry. Each participant has participated in only one entry. I/we did not share work with other	
	students.	
	I/we have not used any improper assistance.	
	I/we understand that using someone else's work without proper credit is plagiarism and will result in	
	disqualification.	

PERFORMANCE RULES

 Requirement:
My/our performance is an original, dramatic production presented live, scripted based on my/our research and
analysis.
My/our performance is less than ten minutes from start to finish.
I/we understand that the performance time begins after the title of the entry and the name(s) of the participants are announced.
I/we can set up the performance in five minutes or less.
I/we will be able to remove our props and participate in an interview with judges within five minutes following
the performance.
The title of the performance and my/our name(s) are the only details shared prior to the performance.
I/we understand that projectors, mp3 players, or media devices are allowed in a performance, but I/we have to operate these devices during the performance. Only participants in the performance may be involved in the production of any media.
I/we will not give a copy of our script to the judges.
I/we understand that interaction with judges and audience members is prohibited.
I/we are responsible for gathering costumes and props for the performance.

WRITTEN MATERIALS for the PERFORMANCE CATEGORY

\checkmark	Requirement:		
	My/our written materials begin with a title page containing the following:		
	 Title of the performance 		
	 My/our name(s) 		
	 Junior OR Senior Division 		
	 Individual OR Group Performance 		
	 Number of words in the process paper 		
	No other information (school, state, teacher, course) is contained on this page.		
	Following my/our title page is a process paper. The process paper addresses the following questions in no more		
	than 500 words:		
	 How did you choose your topic and how does it relate to the annual theme? 		
	 How did you conduct your research? 		
	 How did you create your project? 		
	 What is your historical argument? 		
	 In what ways is your topic significant in history? 		
	My/our process paper does not include quotes, images, or captions.		
	My/our annotated bibliography contains the following:		
	 A complete list of all sources used to create this project 		
	 Annotations for each source 		
	In addition:		
	 My/our annotated bibliography is separated into two sections—one for primary sources, another for 		
	secondary sources.		
	• The annotations describe how I/we used the source and how it helped to understand the topic.		
	• If I/we used several items from the same collection, they are combined into a single citation.		
	I/we did not attach primary or secondary materials to the annotated bibliography.		
	My/our written materials are printed (typed) on plain, white 8.5 x 11-inch paper (A4 for international affiliates),		
	with 1-inch margins on all sides, in 12-point font.		
	My/our written materials are assembled in the following order and stapled/clipped in the top left corner:		
	 Title page 		
	 Process paper 		
	 Annotated bibliography 		
	I/we did not enclose these materials in a binder or folder.		

I/we certify that this National History Day project is the result of my/our unique academic work. All assistance and sources are properly credited.

Signed:	Date:
Signed:	Date:



Student Name(s)		
Documentary Title		
Process Paper Word Count (Max: 500)	Length of Documentary (Max: 10 minutes)	

GENERAL RULES

	Requirement:
	My/our topic clearly relates to the annual theme.
	I/we have read the Contest Rule Book.
	I/we have independently researched and created this documentary in this contest year. No research was reused
	from previous projects, whether my/our own or research belonging to other students.
	This is an original entry. Each participant has participated in only one entry. I/we did not share work with other students.
	I/we have not used any improper assistance.
	I/we understand that using someone else's work without proper credit is plagiarism and will result in disqualification.

DOCUMENTARY RULES

 Requirement:	
My/our documentary is an original production, scripted based on my/our research.	
I/we have access to the equipment needed to create a documentary and know how to use it.	
The documentary is less than ten minutes in length. Timing starts at the first visual or sound and ends at the last visual or sound (including on-screen source credits).	
I/we can set up the documentary in five minutes or less.	
I/we will be able to remove our equipment and participate in an interview with judges within five minutes following the documentary.	
The title of the documentary and my/our name(s) are the only details shared prior to the documentary.	
I/we understand that other commentary or live narration are prohibited prior to and during the documentary.	
I/we understand that the participant(s) must provide, open, and run the file containing the documentary. Judges and other adults are not permitted to run the equipment.	
I/we understand that the documentary must run on its own. No interaction with judges or the audience is allowed.	
I/we created and produced this entry. I/we operated all equipment, including recording and editing software.	
I/we wrote and narrated this documentary. I/we have provided any narration, voice-overs, or dramatizations. The only voices or images on the documentary belong to members of the group or the people we interviewed.	
This project contains no materials created by non-participants specifically for this project. The documentary may interpret and utilize <i>existing</i> photographs, film clips, music, etc. with proper credit.	
The documentary includes brief, readable source credits for photographs, moving footage, interviews, music, and images used in the project. Source credits are included within the ten-minute time limit. All sources used in the project are cited in the annotated bibliography.	

WRITTEN MATERIALS for the DOCUMENTARY CATEGORY

√ Require	ment:
My/our	written materials begin with a title page containing the following:
0	Title of the documentary
0	My/our name(s)
0	Junior OR Senior Division
0	Individual OR Group Documentary
0	Number of words in the process paper
No othe	er information (school, state, teacher, course) is contained on this page.
Followir	ng my/our title page is a process paper. The process paper addresses the following questions in no more
than 50	0 words:
0	How did you choose your topic and how does it relate to the annual theme?
0	How did you conduct your research?
0	How did you create your project?
0	What is your historical argument?
0	In what ways is your topic significant in history?
	process paper does not include quotes, images, or captions.
My/our	annotated bibliography contains the following:
0	A complete list of all sources used to create this project
0	Annotations for each source
In addit	
0	My/our annotated bibliography is separated into two sections—one for primary sources, another for
	secondary sources.
0	The annotations describe how I/we used the source and how it helped to understand the topic.
0	If I/we used several items from the same collection, they are combined into a single citation.
	I not attach primary or secondary materials to the annotated bibliography.
	written materials are printed (typed) on plain, white 8.5 x 11-inch paper (A4 for international affiliates),
	nch margins on all sides, in 12-point font.
My/our	written materials are assembled in the following order and stapled/clipped in the top left corner:
0	Title page
0	Process paper
0	Annotated bibliography
I/we did	I not enclose these materials in a binder or folder.

I/we certify that this National History Day project is the result of my/our unique academic work. All assistance and sources are properly credited.

Signed:	Date:
Signed:	Date:



HISTORY DAY Project Checklist – Exhibit

Student Name(s)		
Exhibit Title		
Process Paper Word Count (Max: 500)	Exhibit Word Count (Max: 500)	

GENERAL RULES

\checkmark	Requirement:	
	My/our topic clearly relates to the annual theme.	
	I/we have read the Contest Rule Book.	
	I/we have independently researched and created this exhibit in this contest year. No research was reused from	
	previous projects, whether my/our own or research belonging to other students.	
	This is an original entry. Each participant has participated in only one entry. I/we did not share work with other	
	students.	
	I/we have not used any improper assistance.	
	I/we understand that using someone else's work without proper credit is plagiarism and will result in	
	disqualification.	

EXHIBIT RULES

\checkmark	Requirement:	
	My/our exhibit is an original creation, showing my/our historical research, analysis, and argument in a three-	
	dimensional format.	
	My/our exhibit meets the size requirements:	
	• The exhibit is no larger than 40 inches wide, 30 inches deep, and 6 feet high.	
	OR	
	 If the exhibit is circular or rotating, it is no more than 30 inches in diameter. 	
	My/our exhibit contains 500 or fewer student-composed words. The word count includes all text that I/we have	
	written, such as titles, subtitles, captions, graphs, timelines, media devices, or supplemental materials. The word	
	count for the exhibit appears on my title page.	
	My/our historical argument is expressed primarily through the exhibit itself. Any supplementary materials or	
	media devices are used sparingly to support my/our argument, if used at all, but are not the primary tools to	
	deliver the project's message.	
	I understand that my/our own historical analysis is the most important element of the exhibit. Quotes from	
	primary and secondary sources support, but do not overwhelm or distract from, my/our historical argument. My/our exhibit does not include takeaway items for judges or others.	
	Media devices or electronics (if used in the exhibit) meet the following requirements:	
	 The media runs for no more than a total of two minutes and does not loop continuously. 	
	 The media does not include dramatic or narrative student involvement. 	
	 Judges are able to control the media device with clearly visible and accessible on/off and volume 	
	controls.	
	 The media device fits within the size and word limits of the exhibit. 	
	 The media does not link externally (e.g., no QR codes). 	
	I/we provide source credits for all quotes and visual sources used as evidence on the exhibit itself. All sources are	
	cited in the annotated bibliography.	

WRITTEN MATERIALS for the EXHIBIT CATEGORY

 Requirement:		
My/our written materials begin with a title page containing the following:		
 Title of the exhibit 		
 My/our name(s) 		
 Junior OR Senior Division 		
 Individual OR Group Exhibit 		
 Number of student-composed words in the exhibit 		
 Number of words in the process paper 		
No other information (school, state, teacher, course) is contained on this page.		
Following my/our title page is a process paper. The process paper addresses the following questions in no more		
than 500 words:		
 How did you choose your topic and how does it relate to the annual theme? 		
 How did you conduct your research? 		
 How did you create your project? 		
 What is your historical argument? 		
 In what ways is your topic significant in history? 		
My/our process paper does not include quotes, images, or captions.		
My/our annotated bibliography contains the following:		
 A complete list of all sources used to create this project 		
 Annotations for each source 		
In addition:		
 My/our annotated bibliography is separated into two sections—one for primary sources, another for 		
secondary sources.		
 The annotations describe how I/we used the source and how it helped to understand the topic. 		
 If I/we used several items from the same collection, they are combined into a single citation. 		
I/we did not attach primary or secondary materials to the annotated bibliography.		
My/our written materials are printed (typed) on plain, white 8.5 x 11-inch paper (A4 for international affiliates),		
with 1-inch margins on all sides, in 12-point font.		
My/our written materials are assembled in the following order and stapled/clipped in the top left corner:		
 Title page 		
 Process paper 		
 Annotated bibliography 		
I/we did not enclose these materials in a binder or folder.		

I/we certify that this National History Day project is the result of my/our unique academic work. All assistance and sources are properly credited.

Signed:	Date:
Signed:	Date:

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NHD HISTORY DAY Project Checklist – Website

Student Name(s)		
Website Title		
Process Paper Word Count (Max: 500)	Number of Visible Words (Max: 1,200)	

GENERAL RULES

 Requirement:
My/our topic clearly relates to the annual theme.
I/we have read the Contest Rule Book.
I/we have independently researched and created this website in this contest year. No research was reused from previous projects, whether my/our own or research belonging to other students.
This is an original entry. Each participant has participated in only one entry. I/we did not share work with other students.
I/we have not used any improper assistance.
I/we understand that using someone else's work without proper credit is plagiarism and will result in disqualification.

WEBSITE RULES

\checkmark	Requirement:
	My/our website is an original production, reflecting my/our ability to use website design software and
	technology to communicate a historical argument.
	This project contains no more than 1,200 visible words. The word count includes all text that I/we have written in
	the website (not the bibliography, process paper, etc.) The word count appears on the home page.
	I/we have access to the internet, as well as the equipment needed to create a NHD website.
	My/our website is constructed in the NHDWebCentral [™] editor.
	I/we have provided brief source credits for all materials (pictures, primary sources, multimedia) where they are
	placed in the website and provided full citations for all sources in the annotated bibliography.
	I/we operated all software and equipment used in the development of the website.
	All pages connect by clicking links. I/we have checked all of the links to make sure that they work.
	My/our website contains no materials created by non-participants specifically for this project. The website
	interprets and utilizes existing photographs, film clips, music, etc. with proper source credit.
	My/our website contains a home page with all elements listed under Written Materials on the next page.
	I/we have no more than three minutes of multimedia (music, audio, and video) in the entire website, including
	any music that plays when a page loads.
	The website contains no spoken narration or explanatory material by participants. It may contain recorded
	quotes or primary materials.
	If the website includes multimedia that requires software to view (e.g., Flash, QuickTime, RealPlayer), I/we
	provided a link on the same page to an internet site where the software is available as a free, secure, and legal
	download.
	All images, primary sources, multimedia, etc. are integrated into the website. There are no external links, except
	to the software plug-ins described above.
	I/we understand that extensive supplementary materials are inappropriate.
	The content and appearance of my/our webpages does not change. I/we have not used random text or image
	generators.
	I/we know the website can be viewed on multiple browsers (Firefox, Google Chrome, etc.)
	I/we have submitted the URL before the date listed for judging and understand that the website will be locked
	during judging.

WRITTEN MATERIALS for the WEBSITE CATEGORY

Because all required written materials are included in the website, no printed copies are required.

\checkmark	Requirement:	
	My/our website begins with a home page containing the following elements:	
	 Title of the website 	
	 My/our name(s) 	
	 Junior OR Senior Division 	
	 Individual OR Group Website 	
	 Number of visible, student-composed words in the website 	
	 Total length of multimedia 	
	 Number of words in the process paper 	
	 A navigational menu to access the other parts of the website 	
	The home page must not include the name of your teacher or your school.	
	My/our process paper is integrated into the website. The process paper addresses the following questions in no	
	more than 500 words:	
	 How did you choose your topic and how does it relate to the annual theme? 	
	 How did you conduct your research? 	
	 How did you create your project? 	
	 What is your historical argument? 	
	 In what ways is your topic significant in history? 	
	My/our process paper does not include quotes, images, or captions.	
	My/our annotated bibliography is integrated into the website. It contains the following:	
	 A complete list of all sources used to create this project 	
	 Annotations for each source 	
	In addition:	
	 My/our annotated bibliography is separated into two sections—one for primary sources, another for 	
	secondary sources.	
	 The annotations describe how I/we used the source and how it helped to understand the topic. 	
	 If I/we used several items from the same collection, they are combined into a single citation. 	
	I/we did not attach primary or secondary materials to the annotated bibliography.	
	The annotated bibliography and process paper are integrated into the website.	
	 The annotated bibliography and process paper are provided in PDF format. 	
	 These required written materials are included in the navigational structure. I have removed hyperlinks 	
	from all URLs listed in the source credits and bibliographic citations.	

I/we certify that this National History Day project is the result of my/our unique academic work. All assistance and sources are properly credited.

Signed:	Date:
Signed:	Date:
Signed:	Date:
Signed:	Date:
Signed:	Date: