U.S. History Influential Person Project

For this project you will be assigned a historical figure to research and present to the class. This project will coincide with the Unit (and chapters) we are studying in class. For this reason, the due dates will vary according to whom you are presenting.

Students will be assigned a name based on the number he or she draws. You will research that person using a questionnaire as a basic guideline, and present to the class using a Power Point or similar type presentation. To receive an “A” on this assignment, you must include more information than is outlined in the attached questionnaire. The questionnaire is just a guideline. Your mission is to become an expert on the person you research. You will be able to answer questions from your classmates and explain why this person is significant in U.S. History. See the attached rubric for detailed requirements. Please note that this project carries the grade equivalent of two tests.

Students are required to use a minimum of five sources, not including Wikipedia. The Creekview Media Center should contain everything you will need and it can be accessed from a home computer if you have the current passwords. Feel free to use resources from outside the media center. Wikipedia will not be accepted as one of your sources.

All students will prepare a Power Point or similar type presentation using the guidelines and directions provided. Each presentation should have a minimum of ten (10) slides, including a title slide with your name, class period, name of the person you researched, and a picture of that person. The introduction slide will NOT count towards the minimum of 10 slides.

Do not use complete sentences on your slides – bullet points only, from which you will explain in your presentation. The last slide should contain a quote from your historical figure or a quote that you think represents their accomplishments or
philosophy. You must identify the source of the quote on your slide. Bartlett’s Quotations is a good source for this (available in the media center).

Please save all your information on a flash drive or your student drive.

➢ When you are ready to present in class, your presentation must be on a flash drive.

On the day of your presentation, you will turn in the following, placed in a pocketed folder:

1. Your research fact gathering questionnaire.
2. Your bibliography in correct MLA format (on a separate sheet of paper).
3. A printout of your PowerPoint presentation (no more than 3 slides per page).

**Your Supplemental Writing Extension – Submit to Canvas (it will be checked for plagiarism).

Turning in Items Late
If any portion is turned in late, you will receive a deduction of 5 points for every day it is late. Computer or printer excuses will NOT be accepted. If you procrastinate until the day before the assignment is due, you leave yourself vulnerable to possible technology issues.

Presentation:

It is recommended that you rehearse your presentation in front of your parents or friends. You may use note cards, but you should be very familiar with your topic. You must look at your audience. Do not read the slides! The audience can read them. Your job is to elaborate on the bullet points you provide. Speak clearly and loudly enough that the person sitting the farthest away from you can hear what you say.
**Influential Historical Figure - Fact Gathering Questionnaire**

Person’s Name_______________________________________________

Place/Date of Birth____________________________________________

Place/Date/Circumstances of Death______________________________

Education_________________________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________________________________

Occupation(s)________________________________________________________________

Cultural Heritage/ Information about Parents___________________________

_____________________________________________________________________________

Childhood___________________________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________________________________

Married? To whom? ___________________________

Children? How many? _______________________

Four Important Historical Events with dates during the lifetime of this person:

1. _______________________________________________________________________

2. _______________________________________________________________________

3. _______________________________________________________________________

4. _______________________________________________________________________

Why is this person important in U.S. History?______________________________

_____________________________________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________________________________

Accomplishments:_________________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________________________________

What impressed you most about this person?

_____________________________________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________________________________

What was the worst thing you learned about this person?

_____________________________________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________________________________

What most people don’t know about this person:

_____________________________________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________________________________

**INCLUDE THIS COMPLETED SHEET IN YOUR FOLDER!**
Supplemental Writing Extension

Jot down some thoughts to answer these questions, and then write a short paper to discuss them fully. Be sure that your answers are thoughtful and insightful. You need six paragraphs; introduction, five body paragraphs addressing the questions. Each paragraph MUST be a minimum of five (5) sentences. Your paper MUST BE TYPED – (double spaced, 12 point font (Arial or Times New Roman), 1” margins.

1) **First paragraph** – Introduction – present your historical person.

2) **Second and third paragraphs** – A biographical description of your historical person--what makes him or her famous in U.S. history?

______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________

3) **Fourth paragraph** -What was your impression of the person you researched? What did you like about him or her and/or what didn’t you like about him or her?

______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________

4) **Fifth paragraph** -What did you learn about this person you did not know before?

______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________

5) **Sixth paragraph** -If you could research anyone in U.S. History, who would it be and why? Give a minimum of three (3) reasons why.

______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________
Influential Historical Figure Project
Evaluation Form

1. Research
   a. Includes a minimum of five cited references ___15 points
   b. Bibliography in correct format (MLA Style) ___5 points
      (Printed out on a separate sheet of paper)
   c. Fact questionnaire completed ___5 points
   d. Quotation included ___5 points

Subtotal ___30 points

2. Presentation
   a. Includes a title page ___5 points
      Name of historical figure and image
      Presenter’s name
      and class period
   b. Includes images on all content slides ___10 points
   c. Faces audience, speaks loud & clearly ___5 points
   d. Visual quality:
      Easy to read font on all slides ___5 points
      Uses bullet points (not complete sentences) ___5 points
      Minimum 10 content slides ___10 points
      (Visually relevant & interesting)

Subtotal ___40 points

3. Knowledge of topic
   a. Can elaborate on talking points (provides additional information
      than what is listed on the slides) ___10 points

Subtotal ___10 points

4. Supplemental Writing Extension
   a. Correct format: typed, double paced, margins ___4 points
   b. Covers all six paragraphs ___20 points
   c. Correct spelling, grammar, punctuation ___5 points
   d. Introduction and conclusion paragraphs ___6 points

5. Miscellaneous
   a. Folder provided – Documents inside ___5 points

Subtotal ___40 points

Total __________ out of 120 points