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 of one test.

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, Prezi, 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 your student Office 365 drive.

➢ When you are ready to present in class, your presentation must be uploaded to Canvas.
You will turn in the following via Canvas by the presentation due date:

1. Your research fact gathering questionnaire.
2. Your bibliography in correct MLA format on a separate document.
3. Your Supplemental Writing Extension will be submitted in a separate assignment on Canvas.

**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:

Submit on Canvas.
Supplemental Writing Extension

Jot down some thoughts to answer these questions, and then type 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, 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
   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             ____5 points
   b. Covers all six paragraphs                                 ____20 points
   c. Correct spelling, grammar, punctuation                    ____5 points
   d. Introduction and conclusion paragraphs                    ____5 points

              Subtotal   ____35 points

Total ___________ out of 115 points
U.S. History Influential Person Project: Sign Up Sheet

Samuel Adams 8/29
Benjamin Franklin 8/31
Abigail Adams 9/7
Alexander Hamilton 9/12
John Marshall 9/14
Dolly Madison 9/28
Aaron Burr 10/3
Meriwether Lewis 10/12
Ralph Waldo Emerson 10/17
Henry Clay 10/23
John C. Calhoun 10/24
Sam Houston 10/26
Joseph Smith 11/2
Frederick Douglas 11/7
Elizabeth Cady Stanton 11/7
John Brown 11/15
Harriett Beecher Stowe 11/15
Jefferson Davis 11/16
Stonewall Jackson 11/16
Sitting Bull 11/30
John D. Rockefeller 12/5

Alternates: Nathan Bedford Forest, Tecumseh, Dorothea Dix, Benedict Arnold, Davy Crockett, Henry David Thoreau