

U.S. History
Decades Project – Essential Skill 1000 points

Objective: For students to research various aspects of American culture and politics during their assigned decade (1950's, 1960's, 1970's, 1980's, 1990's, or 2000's). This is also an opportunity for students to work on research, communication and presentation skills.

Directions:

1. Students will work in groups of up to 4.
2. Each group member will select an aspect(s) of their era (see topics below) to research
3. Each project should include information on the following:
 - A. Fashion/Clothing/Hairstyles (men and women)
 - B. Music
 - C. Entertainment/Recreation/Leisure
 - D. Values (Culture, what was important, slang, etc.)
 - E. Politics
 - F. Economy
 - G. Inventions, technology
 - H. Civil Rights
4. This project should provide the audience with an overall idea of what happened during that decade and what it would be like to live during that time period.
5. After researching the topic, students will need to determine the format the project will take.
6. Different formats that may be used (but are not limited to): Video, display boards, actual artifacts, scrapbook, PowerPoint presentations, slide show, games, demonstrations, or a combination of these formats.
7. The presentation should take 20 minutes – it should be an interactive.

Project requirements:

1. Thorough information provided about the assigned decade (2-3 paragraphs per topic – see above)
2. At least 5 different sources, 2 of which must be primary, are used for researching the decade (**NOTE: Wikipedia is NOT a valid resource**)
3. All group members must partake in researching and putting the project together – it must be identified who was responsible for what (See attached)
4. The presentation must be multi-media (using different types of content – text, pictures, music, video, PowerPoint, etc.)
5. Need to include an MLA formatted bibliography

Step 1 - Research and Data (must use at least 3 total sources)

1. Fashion
 - A. What type of clothing was popular during that time period?
 - B. Popular accessories?
 - C. Popular hairstyles?
 - D. Make sure to illustrate difference between Men and Women and also social classes
2. Music
 - E. What type music was popular during that time period?
 - F. What musicians were popular?
 - G. Try to find specific examples that could be listened to in class
2. Recreation/Leisure
 - A. What venue was used for entertainment? (movies, music, television, sports, etc)
 - B. Popular activities (dances, games)
 - C. Any popular movie stars, sports figures
 - D. Food - What was the American diet like? Popular restaurants and/or meal? Usually cook at home or dine out? (Bring samples?)
3. Values/culture
 - A. What was important to the American people during that time period?
 - B. How did they view women? People of color?
 - C. Were there any movements or revolutions during that time period?
 - D. Were there any popular sayings or slang?
4. Politics
 - A. Who were the presidents during the decade?
 - B. Any political scandals?
 - C. Any wars?
 - D. Major pieces of legislation
5. Economy
 - A. How was the economy at the time?
 - B. What was the unemployment rate?
 - C. Were there any shortages?
 - D. How was the tax rate?
6. Inventions/Technology
 - A. Were there any important/influential inventions that came out of your decade?
 - B. How did the inventions impact the American people?
7. Civil Rights?
 - A. What people were fighting for equality?
 - B. What methods were used?
 - C. What obstacles did they face?

Step 2 - Project

- Determine format of the project/presentation. You must use all of the following unless noted:
 - Newspaper
 - Newscast
 - Animoto or Powtoons
 - Music video or Live Demo
 - Pictographic
 - Glogster
 - Commercial
- Include **at least 2** visual aids
- Be sure to include maps, graphs, photographs or other visuals to illustrate information about the time
- The presentation should be multi-media (i.e. video clips, display board, PowerPoint, music from CD or iPod, etc.)
- Include a TYPED bibliography (MLA)/work cited**
- AND include a typed list of all group members and what each group member was responsible for**
- You must be present the day of your presentation!
- Presentations should take at least 20 minutes. Have fun and be creative!

Decades Project

4 = Exemplary 3 = Very Good 2 = Satisfactory 1 = Needs Work

| Self | Presentation Rubric | Teacher |
|--------------|--|--------------|
| __ × 60 = __ | Content: Includes thorough information on all assigned topics of the decade. Information is clear and accurate. | __ × 60 = __ |
| __ × 30 = __ | Multi-media: Students use at least 2 types of mediums during the presentation. Mediums used were effective. | __ × 30 = __ |
| __ × 30 = __ | Visual Aids: At least 2 visual aids are provided during the presentation. Aids clearly illustrated information. | __ × 30 = __ |
| __ × 50 = __ | Overall Presentation: Organized and fluent presentation, with use of visual aids, an attention getter, introduction and conclusion. Students present an engaging presentation that is easy to follow information. | __ × 05 = __ |
| Total: __ | Total points possible: 680 | Total: __ |

| Self | Research | Teacher |
|--------------|--|--------------|
| __ x 40 = __ | Documentation: Used at least 3 different sources. Included source information (MLA or APA format) with the project. | __ x 40 = __ |
| __ × 40 = __ | Thoroughness: Researched decade thoroughly. Answered all questions in each section. | __ × 40 = __ |
| Total: __ | Total points possible: 320 | Total: __ |

Total Points: ____/100

Grade: ____

Decades Project - History things you must include in your presentation

1920's (example)

Flappers/ vamps- Animoto
Jazz- Animoto
Swing- Animoto
Communism vs. Capitalism- Powtoons
Art Deco- Newspaper ads
Radio/ TV- Newscast
Automobile-Newspaper
Prohibition/ organized crime-Newspaper
Women's Suffrage- Newspaper or Pictographic
Scopes Trial- Newscast
Sports- Newscast
Consumer Economy- newspaper or Pictographic
Republicanism- Powtoons
Credit- newspaper
Harlem Renaissance- newspaper
Immigration- Pictographic or newscast

1950's

Red Scare- McCarthyism
Korean War
Election of 1952
Rosenbergs
Brown vs. Board of Education
Election of 1956
Eisenhower Doctrine
Sputnik
Little Rock Nine
Cuban Revolution
Alaska and Hawaii
Levittown
Television
Warren Court
White flight

1960's

Election of 1960
Election of 1968
Assassinations - Dr. King, JFK, Robert Kennedy, Malcolm X
March on Washington
Space Race - Man on the moon
Cuban Missile Crisis
Bay of Pigs

Berlin Wall
War on Poverty
Medicare and Medicaid
Civil Rights Act of 1964
Voting Rights Act of 1965
Freedom Riders
1968 Olympics
Vietnam
Marshall Court

1970's

Watergate
OPEC - oil embargo Helsinki Accords
Iran Hostage Crisis
Detente
Stagflation
Pentagon Papers
Vietnamization
War Powers Act
Camp David Accords
China
Counter culture
CT white flight
Roe vs. Wade

1980's

Savings and Loan Crisis
Challenger Space Shuttle
Women - Sandra Day O'Connor, Geraldine Ferraro
Immigration Laws
New Jersey v. TLO
Supreme Court nominations - William Rehnquist, Clarence Thomas
HIV/AIDS
Berlin Wall
START I and START II
SDI's (Star Wars)
Iran-Contra Affair
Reaganomics
1980 Olympics
IBM

1990's

Persian Gulf War - Operation Desert Storm
Oklahoma City Bombing
Impeachment scandal (Starr Report)
Global warming
Kyoto Protocol

NAFTA

Technological revolution

Contract with America

Bosnia, Kosovo and Haiti

Election of 1992

Balanced budget

AIDS/ HIV

Don't ask/ don't tell

Internet

Columbine

2000's

Election of 2000

9/11

Operation Enduring Freedom

Enron

Iraq Resolution

Bush tax cuts

Katrina

Housing bubble

Election of 2008

An Inconvenient Truth

Silicon Valley

Group Evaluation

Each group member will fill out the following evaluation to be submitted on the day of your presentation with your group paper.

| | Who completed the written section? | Who worked on the presentation? | Who presented the information? |
|-----------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Fashion | | | |
| Music | | | |
| Recreation | | | |
| Values | | | |
| Politics | | | |
| Economy | | | |
| Tech/Inventions | | | |

Group member's names and grade you think they deserve (be honest):

1. _____

Grade: _____

2. _____

Grade: _____

3. _____

Grade: _____

4. _____

Grade: _____

5. _____

Grade: _____