

# GR8 FINALE:: THE MINI-I-SEARCH HISTORY DEAL

Pick three of the topics below. No duplicates are permitted, so you may have to move to a second or third choice. Be ready. Motivated students will have priority in choice.

The Kent State Massacre      Compromise of 1850      John Wilkes Booth  
Andrew Jackson    Attack on Pearl Harbor    The 49er's    The Cold War    Little Bighorn Battle  
The Pullman Strike      The Mollie Maguires      Aaron Burr      The Battle of Gettysburg  
The Trail of Tears      The Manhattan Project      The Army-McCarthy Hearings      Manifest Destiny  
Remember the Maine!      The Civilian Conservation Corps      The KKK      Dred Scott decision  
Frederick Douglass      The Alamo      The Golden Spike      Buffalo Soldiers  
Brigham Young      Monroe Doctrine      Thomas Alva Edison      The Great Depression  
Watergate      Teapot Dome      Reconstruction      Charles Lindbergh  
The Great Awakening      Al Capone      The Muckrakers      Philo Farnsworth    D-Day

## DETAILS

The Mini-I-Search is a short, focussed research project that will result in a short, formal paper with an emphasis on proper source citations, and a brief teaching presentation to share the findings.

The I-Search is often an 'expert' project, where students investigate subjects of their own choice. I've made some modifications for this assignment. Students will get to choose from a wide-ranging list of topics from American History. Students will be expected to develop questions, locate answers, record notes and **maintain a Daily Log** before assembling the paper and presentation. I will contribute at least one required question to help focus the research. That will be, **In what way did this event or person contribute something important to American history?** An answer for this question is required for the paper and the presentation.

## HERE'S HOW:

Time is tight and there's a LOT going on these last few weeks of school. Check your planner and stay *organized*. Missing deadlines will have an even more powerful effect on your work with this project. Here is what you need to do, step by step,

1. DO ALL **DAY ONE** ACTIONS. This will work best if you're with us when we start the project. Organize your Daily Folder I-SEARCH section to include the following sub-sections: What I Already Know; What I Imagine I'll Find Out; What I Want to Know; Notes; Answers with Sources; LOG.

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2. At the end of Day One, begin daily Log entries. Your LOG entries will be even more important for this project than for the SLP. Note that. All log entries should include what you did on that workday; all entries should include everyone you talked to and all sources you used. Information that answers questions should be stored in the 'Answers with Sources' section; useful information that does not answer specific questions but may, in your opinion, be useful for your presentation or report, should be stored in 'Notes.'
3. Proceed with your research. **Use at least three different sources--at least one from the Internet--to find answers to your questions.** Make sure to maintain your LOG. You'll need it to complete this project successfully.
4. Next...we'll write the rough draft of this *short* report in class, then edit (if you make the deadline) and prepare for the presentations. Other than the writing, most work will take place at school.

### THE CALENDAR

The calendar to the end of the year is extremely crowded. Be aware of the following key dates for this project. If you miss school, make sure to do the responsible thing. Dates:

Friday, 5/1: Day One; trip to SMS library for Dewey Decimal insights

Monday&Tuesday, 5/4,5/5: Research journey to Central Library

Locate useful sources; check 'em out

Wednesday, 5/6--5/19: Research...some time provided in class

Wednesday, 5/20, Thursday 5/21: [Portfolio Nights, as well] *rough draft writing of all sections in class\**

**5/26 EDIT rough draft in class; bring all parts, completed**

**Friday, 5/29:: FINAL COPY OF REPORT DUE**

**MONDAY 6/1--FRIDAY 6/4:: PRESENTATIONS IN CLASS**

Quite a schedule, but I'm confident you can all do it. Keep the log; that is the key to happiness for this particular research project. Good luck.

\*We will write the rough draft in a particular order for a specific reason. If you miss class, check with me or others to find out what that order is.

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