



# Historical Sources Project

## Spring 2018

**\*\*Due Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

### Instructions

Read the following instructions that include a context, guidelines, Task & Directions. Follow the instructions to create a well-organized essay that includes an introduction with a thesis statement, several body paragraphs explaining the thesis, and a conclusion.

### Context

Primary sources allow a historian (YOU!) to go back in time and tell a story of the past. Each piece of historical evidence is usually mute. It's up to the historian (YOU!) to unlock the message in the evidence- to give voice, in a sense, to the people who created the source. The historian (YOU!) therefore must be a skilled detective. Just as a detective work with clues from the past, you will examine the evidence, question its relevance, asses its validity, and then formulate a story based on your analysis and interpretation.

### Guidelines

The project should be 3-4 typed double-space pages. The project will contain the “normal” 1 inch margins, in 12 point font in the style of Times New Roman or Arial Narrow ONLY.

### Task & Directions:

- Choose 2 civilizations from our study of history
- Find 2 primary sources; 1 from each of your chosen civilization
- Examine, analyze, and interpret each source and write a history!
- As a historian, you will make conclusions about how life was like for each civilization during that time period (using your chosen primary sources only!)
  - Some things you may wish to discuss (to tell about their way of life) are the following:
    - How did they govern themselves politically?
    - How was daily life socially? How was society organized?
    - What kind of religion did they have? What role did religion play?
    - What type of economy did they have?
    - How advanced were they technologically? What advances did they have?
- Applying “Sourcing” and “HAPPY”, you will critically analyze each source. Some questions you might want to keep in mind are the following:
  - Why did you choose those specific civilizations/sources?
  - Are the sources biased?
  - Whose point of view were they told from?
  - Are the sources useful? Are the sources limited in providing information?
  - Are the sources reliable to tell a history?
- Compare and Contrast the ways of life of both civilizations you have chosen (political/economic/religious climate and their impact).

### Overall Guides:

- This project will count as 10% of your overall grade.
- Late projects will lose 5 points for each late day.
- Be creative!

## RUBRIC FOR RESEARCH PROJECT

**Due Date:**

Category	Total Possible Points	Score
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Introduction/Thesis:</b></p> <p>The introduction includes a thesis statement which clearly states the topic and the writer’s position.</p>	<b>10</b>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Description/Analysis of Each Civilization:</b></p> <p>Writer clearly analyzes, interprets, and makes insightful description of the historical period with use of primary sources. Writer demonstrates a clear and complete understanding of the historical period discussing political/economic/social/religious/technological factors. Writer also critically analyzes sources pointing out authorship, point of view, bias, usefulness, and reliability of each source.</p>	<b>30</b>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Compare &amp; Contrast:</b></p> <p>Writer reveals an in-depth analysis and makes insightful connections between the 2 different civilizations; clearly explains the political/economic/religious/social features of both civilizations.</p>	<b>20</b>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Organization:</b></p> <p>Examples and support are provided in a logical order that makes it interesting and easy to follow the author’s train of thought. Body paragraphs are logically sequenced and developed. The writer uses smooth transitions from one idea to the next. Entries are neat and legible.</p>	<b>10</b>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Conclusion:</b></p> <p>The conclusion summarizes the ideas and sums up the writer’s arguments. The conclusion offers an enlightening perspective.</p>	<b>5</b>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Grammar:</b></p> <p>The writer demonstrates a consistent command of sentence boundaries, spelling, capitalization, punctuation, and grammar. Though minor errors may be evident, they do not detract from the fluency of the writing or the clarity of the essay.</p>	<b>10</b>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Sources/Quality of Use:</b></p> <p>Minimum of 2 sources included. Writer uses sources in a clear manner to explain the historical circumstance of the events/time period being described. A works cited page is included.</p>	<b>15</b>	
	<b>FINAL SCORE</b>	
<b>Comments:</b>		