

Mesoamerica and the Americas Group Study Project

Directions: You will be assigned different elements of culture from the Maya, Aztec and Inca civilizations to study. You will research your subject and then choose a project to present the information you have found.

Topics:

1. Mayan Religion
2. Aztec Religion
3. Inca Religion
4. Mayan Architecture
5. Aztec Architecture
6. Incan Architecture
7. Mayan Art
8. Aztec Art
9. Incan Art
10. Mayan Culture
11. Aztec Culture
12. Inca Culture

<p>Create a colorful children's story book (or even a pop-up book) of a myth, story, legend or daily life in Mayan, Aztec or Incan culture</p>	<p>Write and perform a skit based on the subject you were given.</p>	<p>Make a pamphlet for either a museum or travel. For a travel pamphlet act as if you are traveling back in time and going to visit the location. For a museum pamphlet choose artifacts and architecture that you would want to include in a museum exhibit.</p>
<p>Invent a board game based on what you have learned about the Aztecs, Mayas or Incas. Write the rules so that classmates can play it in class.</p>	<p>Student Choice</p>	<p>Make a 5 minute powerpoint on the topic you have been assigned. Must include pictures, facts, and detailed information about your topic. Powerpoint must look professional and every member of the group must participate.</p>

Project Option: Children's Storybook

Objective: You are to create a 20 page colorful storybook where one page will be images and one will be paragraph information. The story you create needs to be based on the research you do for your topic.

Requirements:

- 1) Creativity and Originality (10 points)
 - Storybook has original content based on the information you have discovered
 - Storybook is creative in design
- 2) Historical Accuracy (15 points)
 - Story is historically accurate and includes primary source excerpts throughout.
 - Chronology of events is accurate.
 - Events, People, and Groups are accurately portrayed and dialogue demonstrates a clear understanding of the historical issues of the assigned time period.
 - You must provide a bibliography of sources that you use to find the information on your topic.
- 3) Dialogue and Images (10 points)
 - Storybook must include 10 pages of information and 10 pages of accompanying images
 - Dialogue is clear and easy to follow.
 - Dialogue needs to include primary source excerpts wherever possible.
 - Images are neatly completed and colorful.
 - Images accurately depict your topic
- 4) Presentation of Storybook (10 points).
 - Clear preparation went into the creation and presentation of the storybook.
 - Students equally present parts of the story.
- 5) Statement of Learning (10 points) (**1 per student**)
 - A One page explanation must accompany your project. The following should be included:
 - Why was this topic of interest to you?
 - Specifically, what did you learn? What information was new to you?
 - What surprised you the most about this topic?

Project Option: Create and Perform a Skit

Objective: You are to create a 5 minute skit which illustrates your assigned topic. **Be sure that your dialogue is school appropriate.** You may choose to dress up in time period attire and include music in your historical skit. You must provide the teacher with a script the class before the presentation.

Requirements:

1) Creativity and Originality (10 points)

-Historical skit is both educational and entertaining.

2) Historical Accuracy (15 points)

-Dialogue is historically accurate and includes primary source excerpts throughout.

-Chronology of events is accurate.

-Events, People, and Groups are accurately portrayed and dialogue demonstrates a clear understanding of the historical issues of the assigned time period.

-You must provide a bibliography of sources that you use to find the information on your topic.

3) Dialogue (10 points)

-Dialogue is clear and direct.

-Dialogue needs to include primary source excerpts wherever possible.

4) Quality of the Presentation (10 points)

-Clear preparation apparent throughout the historical skit presentation.

-Students interact with each fluidly and involve other students in the class.

-Students gave teacher a copy of pamphlet beforehand to be printed out.

5) Statement of Learning (10 points) (**1 per student**)

- A One page explanation must accompany your project. The following should be included:

-Why was this topic of interest to you?

-Specifically, what did you learn? What information was new to you?

-What surprised you the most about this topic?

Project Option: Make a Pamphlet

Objective: Create a trifold pamphlet either for a museum exhibit or for a travel guide that displays the information your group finds in your research.

Requirements:

1) Creativity and Design (10 points)

- Pamphlet design is pleasing and coherent. The pamphlet images and text show a level of creativity and effort.
- Images and Text are used to convey information.

2) Historical Accuracy (20 points)

- Pamphlet is historically accurate and includes primary source excerpts or images.
- Contains in depth historical information on every side of pamphlet.
- Information that is used must be relevant to the subject.
- You must provide a bibliography of sources that you use to find the information for your topic.

3) Presentation of Pamphlet (10 points)

- All group members must discuss portion of pamphlet.
- Presenter must speak clearly and at a high enough volume. Presenter should not just stare at pamphlet, but expound on what is in the pamphlet.
- Pamphlet must be turned in the class before presentation day so teacher can print out copies for class.

4) Statement of Learning (10 points) (**1 per student**)

- A One page explanation must accompany your project. The following should be included:

- Why was this topic of interest to you?
- Specifically, what did you learn? What information was new to you?
- What surprised you the most about this topic?

Project Option: Invent a Board Game

Objective: Students will create a game based on some aspect of their assigned topic. The scope of this project is wide-ranging. You may be very specific or you may want your game to reflect the entire range of the topic. Events are easier topics to select. The key to creating an effective board game is clear directions, fun and challenging objectives, and a neat and attractive package.

Requirements:

1) Packaging and Game Design (10 points)

- Tastefully presented and packaged- neatness, design, overall appearance.
- You will have a group of your classmates play the game to make sure that the directions are easy to follow.
- Clear, concise, easy to follow directions that clearly and completely explain rules of the game.

2) Creativity and Originality (10 points)

- Your project can reflect originality and creativity in terms of how your game is organized and played, and on the theme upon which it is based. Games that are simplistic are not going to rate as high a score as games that are more detailed and challenging in nature. (You may model your game after an existing game.)

3) Historical Accuracy (15 points)

- The project must be historically accurate. Attention to detail in this regard is very important.
- Bibliography of sources used-minimum requirements:
 - You must provide a bibliography of sources that you use to find the information for your topic.

4) Presentation of Game (10 points)

- Game flows well and has clear direction.
- Historically appealing with emphasis on historical understanding and inquiry.
- Game was tested before presentation day.

5) Page of Explanation/Statement of Learning (10 points) (1 per student)

- A one page explanation must accompany your project. The following should be included:
 - Why was this topic of interest to you?
 - Specifically, what did you learn? What information was new to you?
 - What surprised you most about this topic?

Project Option: Make a PowerPoint Presentation

Objective: You are to create a 5 minute powerpoint which illustrates in detail your assigned topic. This powerpoint should cover all aspects of your topic so it is imperative that you do extensive research. You will present your powerpoint to the class. In addition you are required to make a one page handout for each student.

Requirements:

- 1) Creativity and Originality (10 points)
 - Powerpoint is both educational and entertaining.

- 2) Historical Accuracy (15 points)
 - Dialogue is historically accurate and includes primary source excerpts throughout.
 - Chronology of events is accurate.
 - Events, People, and Groups are accurately portrayed and dialogue demonstrates a clear understanding of the historical issues of the assigned time period.
 - You must provide a bibliography of sources that you use to find the information on your topic.

- 3) Dialogue (10 points)
 - Dialogue is clear and direct.
 - Dialogue needs to include primary source excerpts wherever possible.

- 4) Quality of the Presentation (10 points)
 - Clear preparation apparent throughout the historical skit presentation.
 - Students interact with each fluidly and involve other students in the class.
 - One page handout is neat and relevant to the presentation

- 5) Statement of Learning (10 points) (**1 per student**)
 - A One page explanation must accompany your project. The following should be included:
 - Why was this topic of interest to you?
 - Specifically, what did you learn? What information was new to you?
 - What surprised you the most about this topic?