Civics/Current U.S. Issues Research Presentation

National Issues/*Karen H. Reeves*

The following assignment is designed to reinforce the classroom units that address current issues faced by citizens of the United States. It will emphasize research, composition, technology, and presentation skills.

Assessment Guidelines

Because this is a cooperative effort, all group members are responsible for the completion of the entire project. Each group will develop a 20 minute Power Point presentation of the information as specified in the assigned topics (to be distributed in class). The Presentation Rubric is attached.

* The *Individual presentation* grade will be based upon the student effort as a member of the group as well as in the individual presentation and will count as one Project grade.
* The *Group presentation* grade will be based on the cooperative efforts of the whole group and will count as a Test grade.
* In addition, each person in the group must submit a *Works Cited.* (MLA format is on Works Cited handout.) with at least 3 sources per person which will count as one daily grade.
* Each individual must submit his/her *research notes + presentation notes* taken for one daily grade.

Project Guidelines

Below are the guidelines for completion of the project:

1. Projects will be completed in assigned groups of three or four. Groups may choose their topics from a list, however neither groups nor topics may be changed.

2. All group members must participate in the research, Power point slide construction, and presentation phases of the project.

3. All group members must participate in the presentation. Presentations will be made in a preset order. Groups must be prepared to present even if a member is absent. Makeup presentations will be made up after school before an audience of teachers and only if the absence is excused.

4. Each presentation must be no longer than nine slides and must include at least six graphics. Every group member must construct and sign at least three slides. Presentations should be organized in advance.

5. Slides and presentations must be designed to “teach” the class members who will be required to take notes during each presentation. The lowest grades will be given to presenters who simply “read” their slides.

5. Students may not receive any help in slide construction outside of the classroom. Presentations will be saved by the instructor and may not be changed after that time.

6. Each group will be given 20 minutes to make a presentation. There will be no time to “read over” the material for the first time that day! TECHNICAL DIFFICULTIES WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED AS AN EXCUSE TO DELAY PRESENTATION!

Topics for Presentation

* Gun Control *(Should the Federal Government ban the private use of all guns?)*
* Death Penalty *(Is the death penalty a breach of the 8th Amendment?)*
* Health Quarantines *(Should the Federal Government impose mandatory vaccines for contagious diseases/conditions?)*
* Homeland Security *(Should the Federal Government be allowed to profile citizens/non-citizens for purposes of identifying terrorists?)*
* Stem-cell Research *(Should the Federal Government fund the use of fetal tissue for stem-cell research?)*
* Free Speech *(Should colleges be allowed to ban certain types of speech on campus?)*

MLA Format for Works Cited Slide

Works Cited

“Buddhism.” *Religions*. Center for Religious Tolerance, (or

N.p. if there isn’t a publisher) 9 Sept. 2005. Web. 17 Sept.

2014. <www.religionsonline.com>.

Miller, Sue. ed. *People and Nations*. New York: Holt, Rinehart,

& Winston, 2000. Print.

Smith, John. *Ganges River*. 1995. Personal Collection, Chicago.

*All about India*. Web. 25 Sept. 2014.

Terry, Arthur. *Map of the Spread of Hinduism*. 1999. National

Geographic, Chicago. *World Religions*. Web. 24 Sept.

2014.

Walters, Mitchell. “Hinduism.” *Religions of the World*. The

Hindu Center, 12 Sept. 2010. Web. 17 Sept.

2014. <www.hinduism.com>.

YouTube. “Hindu Service.” Online video clip. *YouTube*, 12 Jan.

2005. Web. 25 Sept. 2014.

Website article, no author

Book

Photo from the Internet

Map from the Internet

Website article with author

YouTube video

Notice: There are no bullets, the slide is double-spaced, there is a period at the end of each entry, and there are angle brackets around each website.