

Freshman Research Project 2007-2008

What will you be asked to do?

You are to develop a comparative research paper that identifies an aspect of a particular ancient culture/society and determine the degree to which it has influenced modern culture/society.

The first process in this process is to select an ancient culture/society that is of interest to you.

The second step in this process is to select an aspect of this ancient culture/society from the adjoining "Topic Web" provided.

Once you have selected an ancient culture/society and a corresponding aspect of that ancient culture/society, conduct your investigative research and determine how this aspect of society influences modern culture/society.

Ideally, your paper will answer questions such as...

Who were the Minoans? Where did they live? How did their geography and the other civilizations around them affect who they were and how they developed? What was one aspect of Minoan civilization that has had a big impact on the modern world? What do we know about this ancient aspect of Minoan civilization? What evidence do we have that this ancient aspect affects the modern world? What are some concrete examples of this?

Comparative Research Paper Format

These are basic and standard guidelines that need to be followed:

- All papers must be typed in 12 point Times New Roman font; use 1-inch margins and be double spaced. Staple in upper left hand corner **ONCE**.
- All papers must have **NO** more than **ONE** space between every paragraph.
- **All papers must have a cover page with the following information:**
 - Title of the work centered on the cover page
 - Your name, teacher, course (World History I), school, and Date submitted centered in the lower portion of the page (**See provided example**)
- Papers must be **FOUR** pages in length. This **DOES NOT** include your cover page or works cited page.
- All papers must use the proper MLA guidelines for internal citations and a final page of "Works Cited" at the end of the paper. **Your paper must include at least one internal citation for each of your sources**
The works cited page should contain only those sources cited in your paper.
- Papers should **AVOID** writing in first person. Do not include I think, I feel, I know...write from a third person perspective.
- Papers need to use irrefutable and factual information from at least three (3) sources that must include the following:
 - Article from a library **database** such as Gale Group, SIRS, etc.
 - **Internet** based source (**NOT WIKIPEDIA**) such as a properly identified web site (ask if you are unsure of a website's validity)
 - **Book** (your textbook can only be used as an additional resource)

Paper Format...

- **Part I of paper: Introduction**- In 2-3 paragraphs, introduce the reader to the topic. Assert a thesis and give any background information necessary for a person who is not a student of history to understand your topic. (you are not writing for me, you are writing for someone who knows nothing of your topic.) Explain any important terms, ideas, or geographical locations to which you will refer in your paper. Likewise, introduce any key people associated with your topic. Do not make the mistake of introducing topics or ideas in this part of the paper and then NOT discuss them later.
- **Part II of Paper: Body**- In 3-5 paragraphs focus on at least three major findings related to the topic of research. Discuss the extent to which this ancient culture/society has influenced modern culture/society. Be sure to solidify this argument with concrete examples of the modern world. This should include vital information that you obtained as a result of your research of both the ancient society as WELL as of modern society.
- **Part III of Paper: Conclusion/Summary**- In 1-2 paragraphs, summarize your findings and emphasize those that have had the most impact on modern culture/society. This is NOT a place where you assert what YOU think about your findings...remember, 3rd person!

