**The History Day Documentary**

A documentary presents information through a 10-minute presentation that showcases documents, images, photographs, and actual footage of the topic you are researching. This is your chance to make you own TV-style documentary using computer-based video editing programs.

**Ideal for Students who:**

* are interested in working with computers and documentary technology.
* have access to video-editing programs such as iMovie, Windows Moviemaker, or Adobe Premiere on a computer or laptop at home, as well as reliable internet access.
* have a topic with a variety of illustrations, documents, media, and other visual materials.

**To prove your thesis, a Documentary includes:**

* many visuals, including still images and video.
* narration by the student.
* additional audio, like music and interviews.
* credits at the end that are included in the 10-minute time limit.

Basic Guidelines:

* Entire documentary, including credits, must fit within **10-minute time limit**.
* Must be student-produced. All narration and live video performance/reenactments must be by student(s) in this project.
* Use iMovie (on Macs), Windows Moviemaker (free download), or Adobe Premiere to create your movie. You may use Powerpoint slideshow, although you will need to put extra effort into designing a presentation that combines visual images and recorded narrative effectively.
* Write the script before you start creating the documentary. Record the narration first, and then insert visuals to support it.
* Make sure you have enough visuals -- 10 minutes is 600 seconds, and the average time a picture is on screen is 5 seconds. This means you’ll need over 100 images! Of course, video clips will help fill this more quickly.
	+ Places to go for visuals: scan from books, take digital photos of books/photos, Google Images, take video from documentaries (video is okay to take, but not narration).
* A **strong thesis** clearly stated and obvious for viewer to see.
* Include an interview, or a few. You may find clips of eyewitness interviews, historians, authors, or even your own topic person online. If possible, you may interview an expert yourself!
* All images need to include URL address in credits.
* All quoted material needs to include the source.

*Search NHD Documentaries on YouTube for samples.*

History Day **DOCUMENTARY** Scoring Rubric

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Title of Exhibit: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 *Comments/Suggestions:*

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Superior | Excellent | Good | Needs Improvement |
| **Historical Quality - 60%**  | **10** | **9** | **8** | **7-5** |
| * historically accurate
 |  |  |  |  |
| * shows analysis and interpretation
 |  |  |  |  |
| * places topic in historical context
 |  |  |  |  |
| * shows wide research
 |  |  |  |  |
| * uses available primary sources
 |  |  |  |  |
| * research is balanced & addresses opposing viewpoints
 |  |  |  |  |
| **Relation to “Leadership & Legacy” Theme - 20%** |  |  |  |  |
| * clearly relates topic to theme with strong thesis statement
 |  |  |  |  |
| * demonstrates significance of topic (importance) & draws conclusions that prove thesis statement
 |  |  |  |  |
| **Clarity of Presentation - 30%** |  |  |  |  |
| * **Clearly Organized:** exhibit material is original, clear, appropriate, and well-organized for optimal viewer understanding
 |  |  |  |  |
| * **Visually Appealing**: has visual impact that enhances viewer interest with use of color, images, objects, and written material
 |  |  |  |  |
| **Rule Requirements Met:** |  |  |  |  |
| * within 10-minute time limit
 |  |  |  |  |
| * includes credits listing image sources
 |  |  |  |  |
| * all equipment is student-run
 |  |  |  |  |
| **FINAL SCORE** |  |  |  |  |