

Timeless Voices Informative Research Project

Scoring Guide

	Exceeds Standards	Meets Standards (85%)	Does Not Yet Meet Standards
Catch Attention/Hook	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meets Standards PLUS is original and makes the reader consider the topic on a deeper level. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hook clearly introduces and relates to the selected topic. Hook is connected to thesis with a “bridge” sentence. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hook does not introduce and/or relate to the selected topic.
Claim (Thesis)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meets Standards PLUS claim (thesis) is original and makes the reader consider the topic on a deeper level. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduction contains a claim (thesis) that clearly and specifically states your focus. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduction paragraph does not contain a claim (thesis). <p>OR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Claim (thesis) is not clear and does not specifically state your focus.
Outside Sources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meets Standards PLUS makes use of <u>multiple</u> quotes from outside nonfiction sources, explains why outside sources support ideas, and moves the reader to a deeper understanding of the topic. Includes how/why the quote provides your claim (thesis) is true AND why this matters. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Paper makes use of TWO outside nonfiction sources (quote or paraphrase). Information is relevant to the author’s claim (thesis) and furthers his or her ideas. Information from outside source is introduced so the reader understands the context of the information. Outside source is properly cited using MLA in-text citations. Author clearly explains why the outside source supports his or her ideas — how/why the quote proves your claim (thesis) is true. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Missing one or both outside sources. Quote not relevant to author’s claim (thesis) and does not further his or her ideas. Quote is not introduced. Quote is not cited OR is not in correct MLA formatting. Author makes no attempt to explain why the quote supports his or her ideas.

Conclusion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Author meets standards AND author’s explanation leads to a broader understanding of the impact of their chosen topic. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Author restates claim (thesis) in different words or references their hook. • Significance of each main idea is briefly explained. • Author briefly explains the impact of their chosen topic. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Author does not restate claim (thesis) or does not restate claim (thesis) in different words. • Author does not discuss the significance of each main idea. • Author does not mention the impact of their chosen topic.
Works Cited	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Author has a works-cited page that lists the two outside sources. • Sources are listed in alphabetical order. • Sources are double-spaced. • Sources have proper indentation. • Sources are in proper MLA citation format (not just URLs). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Author does not have a works cited page. <p style="text-align: center;">OR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Formatting for works cited page is not correct (spacing, alphabetical order, and/or indentation). • Missing one or more citations.
Formatting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meets formatting standards for font and spacing and is 1,000-1,500 words. • Paper includes purposeful use of headings or at least three pieces of tech integration (images, charts, etc.), that are relevant and further the reader’s understanding of the text and explained in captions or within the paper. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student’s paper is typed in 12-point Times New Roman or 11-point Arial font. • Paper is double-spaced. • Paper is between 750 and 1,000 words. • Paper includes purposeful use of headings throughout the text or at least two pieces of tech integration (images, charts, etc.) that are relevant to the information and explained in captions or within the paper. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student’s paper is not in 12-point Times New Roman or 11-point Arial font. • Paper is not double-spaced. • Paper is less than 750 words. • Student does not include headings/tech integration OR graphics/tech integration do not connect to the topic of the paper.

Tone/Fluency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student uses a variety of sentence types, which leads to a natural flow from one sentence to the next. • Style is appropriate for the audience, and the writing has a consistent tone throughout the piece. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student uses a variety of sentence types which lead to writing that sounds mostly natural with no more than two awkward transitions. • Student uses a consistent tone throughout the piece that is appropriate for the audience with only one or two places of inconsistency. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student uses only one or two sentence types, which leads to choppy, awkward writing. • Style is not appropriate for the audience, and the tone is inconsistent.
Grammar/Spelling	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student has no capitalization or other grammatical errors. • Student has no spelling errors. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paper includes capitalization and/or spelling errors.