



HISTORY FAIR SCORING RATIONALE

HIGH SCHOOL PROJECTS

HISTORICAL KNOWLEDGE (30%) Does the student have a thorough and accurate knowledge of the topic? Are the facts gathered by the student appropriate and relevant? Has the student related the project to a larger historical context? Is it historical?

<i>Superior</i> 30-29	Great depth of factual knowledge; focused topic; proficient selection of relevant information from sources; solid understanding of context and background, facts well organized to support theme.
<i>Excellent</i> 28-25	Thorough factual knowledge; focused topic; relevant facts selected; some context and background apparent; facts clearly support theme of project.
<i>Good</i> 24-23	Some description; topic stated but too general; information used is appropriate and relevant.
<i>Fair</i> 22-21	Limited, factual description: only surface knowledge; topic is unfocused; facts reported are not always relevant.

QUALITY OF ANALYSIS (30%) Does the project offer a problem or questions that it then proceeds to resolve or answer? Has the student clearly identified a thesis? Does the project make a point or draw a conclusion? Is the resolution, conclusion, backed by evidence? Are the impact and historical significance of the topic clearly demonstrated? Does it tell a story of change over time or show cause and effect?

<i>Superior</i> 30-29	Strong, clear thesis is tightly focused; evidence is fully analyzed to support the argument and conclusions; highly skillful connection of topic to a greater historical context; fully understands the impact and significance of theme.
<i>Excellent</i> 28-25	Tells a story of change over time or reflects some other principle of organization; thesis is linked to conclusion; skillful attempt to place project in a larger context. Uses evidence to illustrate story. Some understanding of historical significance. More exposition than argument.
<i>Good</i> 24-23	Some attempt to tell a story or organize information; some attempt at showing change over time or cause and effect; some attempt to summarize research. All expository.
<i>Fair</i> 22-21	Lacks a storyline or clear line of reasoning; theme is unclear; no real conclusion.

QUALITY OF SOURCE MATERIAL (20%) Does the bibliography show use of available sources? Did the student consult sources in more than one institution? Does the bibliography feature a variety of primary and secondary sources which are used effectively in the project? Did the student rely too heavily on one source?

<i>Superior</i> 20-19	In depth research of available secondary and primary sources. Material from special collections and archives used and quality secondary sources brought into the analysis. Internet used for primary sources almost exclusively or journal articles/scholarly essays available online. Shows proficiency in the evaluation of sources.
<i>Excellent</i> 18-17	Numerous and varied primary sources, some quality secondary and primary sources. Some analysis of sources. Internet sources are credible and used sparingly.
<i>Good</i> 16-15	Limited sources; some variety. Heavy and unnecessary use of general websites for sources.
<i>Fair</i> 14-13	Sources are few and limited to general reference works and websites.

QUALITY OF PRESENTATION (20%) Has the student selected an appropriate medium for the topic? Does the project flow logically from beginning to end with a narrative structure? Does the physical appearance of the exhibit, costumes/set, or documentary show attention to detail and show some creativity? Does it demonstrate care in terms of typing, proofreading, neatness?

<i>Superior</i> 20-19	Compelling, engaging, well-organized project that makes the best use of sources and medium to reinforce the underlying argument. Lively writing --well chosen words. Lively, appropriate blend of visual and audio sources (documentaries), visuals and text (exhibits). Effective delivery, high attention to detail. Makes history "come alive."
<i>Excellent</i> 18-17	Organized, creative, and interesting project that uses the medium well to communicate learning. Descriptive narrative, solid writing, attention to detail.
<i>Good</i> 16-15	Flat, expository display or presentation. Some organization and attempt at creativity, narrative is understandable but not substantive. Doesn't make best use of the medium.
<i>Fair</i> 14-13	Little of own thought apparent in the project, disorganized, sloppy.

OVERALL PROJECT SCORES:

Superior: 99 - 88 total points; Excellent: 87.5 – 80.5 total points; Good: 80-70.5.