Civil War & Reconstruction Presentation Project

8th Grade American Studies
Assigned:
Research Due:
Presentation Begins:

Objective:

Students will create and give a presentation that will be accompanied by a PowerPoint slideshow centered upon a Civil War or Reconstruction topic.

Presentation Requirements:

1. An introduction
2. A timeline or chronological breakdown of the event
3. A map related to the topic
4. A "story" with a logical beginning, middle, and end.
5. Three interesting facts to accompany the story about the topic
6. Consequences, results, or significance of the topic

Choosing a Topic:

Students will be assigned a time period during the Civil War to investigate. Once students have been assigned a group to work with they will be able to select a topic. Below are some suggested topics, but students may choose one of their own so long as if fits the criteria of their assigned group.

Civil War Battles	Civil War People	Other Civil War Topics
Fort Sumter Manassas I Shiloh Antietam Gettysburg Vicksburg Siege of Richmond	Abe Lincoln Jefferson Davis Robert E. Lee Frederick Douglass Stonewall Jackson William T. Sherman Gen. Ulysses S. Grant	New Weapons of War Civil War Prison Camps The Emancipation Proclamation The Military Draft Civil War Economics

Presentation Skills

Each student will be allowed to use note cards as a reference for their presentation. The PowerPoint slide show is not to be used to read from. The purpose of the slideshow is to provide a visual reinforcement of the topic being discussed. Students are expected to rehearse their slideshow and provide detailed insight into their chosen topic.

A PowerPoint template will be posted online prepared with special tips and directions with what to include in the PowerPoint to satisfy the requirements listed above. All of the required slides will be pre-manufactured so students will be able to focus more time on developing the content rather than the setup of their PowerPoint. If a student does not have PowerPoint available to work on, students may download OpenOffice.org as a free alternative that is compatible with our template and completely acceptable to use for this project.

The following list is the grading rubric for the presentation. The entire project will be scored out of a possible 100 points. Scoring expectations are outlined in the far right column.

Topic Relevant Component	Scoring	Scoring Expectations
Introduction	2	States topic covered and details to be presented
Timeline or Chronology	5	States timeframe and key points of the topic
Map	2	A map is included
Story part 1	10	A introduction to a detailed description of an event or person is presented by the speaker
Story part 2	10	A development to the first detailed description of an event or person is presented by the speaker
Story part 3	10	A climax is reached in the description of an event or person is presented by the speaker
Supplemental fact # 1	2	A new and unique fact is presented, 1 point for presenting, 2 points for presenting and elaborating.
Supplemental fact # 2	2	A new and unique fact is presented, 1 point for presenting, 2 points for presenting and elaborating.
Supplemental fact # 3	2	A new and unique fact is presented, 1 point for presenting, 2 points for presenting and elaborating.
Consequence or Significance	5	A summary of the consequence or significance is presented
Research and preparation	10	Research completed and turned in prior to presentation creation in the computer lab 5 points Note cards created for rehearsal and presentation
Presentation length	10	6 points = 2:30 to 2:59 7 points = 3:00 to 3:29 8 points = 3:30 to 3:59 9 points = 4:00 to 4:29 10 points = 4:30+ Presentation length expectations: Introduction, supplemental facts, and significance portions should target a minimum of 15 - 20 seconds Each part of your story should range between 40-50 seconds each. This puts the total presentation between 3:15 and 4:15.
Presentation speaking skills	10	0-2 points: Sufficient eye contact with audience 0-2 points: Memorized presentation / Reliance on note cards 0-2 points: Vocal volume and clarity 0-2 points: Poise 0-2 points: PowerPoint only used as a visual reinforcement
PowerPoint presentation	20	Content completed on slides 1 point per slide Slides in include visual aid and limited text 1 point per slide
Total Possible Points	**100**	

Helpful research sources:

http://www.civilwar.com/
http://www.civil-war.net/
http://www.eyewitnesstohistory.com
http://www.presidentsusa.net
http://www.americanwest.com/

PRESENTATION EVALUATION FORM

Topic Relevant Component	Expectations	Points Possible	Points Earned
Introduction	States topic covered and details to be presented	2	
Timeline or Chronology	States timeframe and key points of the topic	5	
Map	A map is included	2	
Story part 1	A introduction to a detailed description of an event or person is presented by the speaker	10	
Story part 2	A development to the first detailed description of an event or person is presented by the speaker	10	
Story part 3	A climax is reached in the description of an event or person is presented by the speaker	10	
Supporting fact #1	A new and unique fact is presented, 1 point for presenting, 2 points for presenting and elaborating.	2	
Supporting fact #2	A new and unique fact is presented, 1 point for presenting, 2 points for presenting and elaborating.	2	
Supporting fact #3	A new and unique fact is presented, 1 point for presenting, 2 points for presenting and elaborating.	2	
Consequence or Significance	A summary of the consequence or significance is presented	5	
Research and preparation	Research completed and turned in prior to presentation creation in the computer lab 5 points Note cards created for rehearsal and presentation	10	
Presentation length	6 points = 2:30 to 2:59 7 points = 3:00 to 3:29 8 points = 3:30 to 3:59 9 points = 4:00 to 4:29 10 points = 4:30+ Presentation length expectations: Introduction, supplemental facts, and significance portions should target a minimum of 15 - 20 seconds Each part of your story should range between 40-50 seconds each. This puts the total presentation between 3:15 and 4:15.	10	
Presentation speaking skills	0-2 points: Sufficient eye contact with audience 0-2 points: Memorized presentation / Reliance on note cards 0-2 points: Vocal volume and clarity 0-2 points: Poise 0-2 points: PowerPoint only used as a visual reinforcement	10	
PowerPoint presentation	Content completed on slides 1 point per slide Slides in include visual aid and limited text 1 point per slide	20	
Total Possible Points		**100**	