Overview/Choosing Your Topic/Sub-Topic

The 'Early Civ Project' is an opportunity for you to explore a civilization from history both generally and specifically. This assignment will allow you to gain a general understanding of a nation of your choice, while also exploring a very specific aspect of that society. The Early Civ Project consists of two key pieces:

1. **PAPER**
   - that explores the general nature of an early civilization

2. **CREATIVE CONSTRUCTION**
   - that explores a specific facet of that civilization’s culture

You will get started on this project by selecting a topic civilization off the "Early Civilizations Project Topic List". You may choose any civilization with a "" next to its name. Once you have chosen your "civ" you should choose what related Creative Construction sub-topic you want (these are listed just below your chosen civilization and have a "" next to their name).

So in other words, a student might choose from the list as follows:

“My paper will be on the Qin Dynasty of China and my creative construction will be the Great Wall of China.”

### The Paper

- All Projects will include a **THREE-FOUR PAGE** paper providing an overview of your topic (civilization) project (Page length does not include your Works Cited) and follows the guidelines below.
- **Paper Mechanics**
  - 3 – 4 Pages (not including Works Cited), 12 point font, Times New Roman, Double Space & 1 inch margins all the way around (Microsoft Word defaults to 1.25 inch margins, CHANGE to 1 inch).
  - Full MLA heading with page numbers on all pages, including Works Cited page
  - Typed and printed on white paper with black ink text.
  - Parenthetical Citations that use each of the works listed on your works cited.
- All Projects will include a **Works Cited in MLA format** with at least 4 sources.
  (sources may not include general encyclopedias (Encarta, Wikipedia, Britannica, World Book, etc.) **These sources must all appear in your paper in parenthetical citations!**
- **Paper Format (Required)**
  - Introduction (BRIEF overview of your Civilization)
  - Founding of the Civilization
  - Accomplishments of the Civilization
  - Struggles of the Civilization
  - Important People/Rulers/Leaders of the Civilization
  - Fall/Collapse/Decline of the Civilization
  - Conclusion (BRIEF summary of your paper)

Each section gets its own paragraph with these headings (in bold) at the start of that section.
The Creative Construction

● All projects will also include a student-created creation in a display form of their choice (see the handout "Display Form Ideas")
● Projects may be displayed to the class/general public (so do your best work).
● Each project must include some form of hand-drawn or hand-created visuals. In the case of posters or pamphlets with many pictures, 75% must be original.
● Flat posters or PowerPoints will not be accepted for this project except with special permission
(see Display Form Ideas handout for alternatives)
● If your project involves a performance before the class (i.e. drama), make arrangements with Mr. Smith well before the due date.
● Select a type of creative display that best suits your talents or interests. For example, if you like to build things with your hands you might consider making a model, diorama or sculpture. On the other hand, a talented artist may choose to make a drawing or painting. If writing is your expressive medium of choice, maybe you'll write a poem, song, children's book or play. Ultimately, whatever format you choose, Mr. Smith will look at what you hand in and ask himself: “Did my student spend a lot of time creating this or was it hastily created?”

Due Dates

● Your Early Civilizations Project is due on ________________________.
● All late work shall be deducted 20% off the final grade.
● Plagiarism, whether intentional or accidental, shall result in a grade of 0%….be careful about what you copy and if you have a question see Mr. Smith.

Grade & Weighting

● Your Early Civilization Project is equal to a UNIT TEST in the gradebook (Portal).
● The creative construction portion of your project will account for 50% of your project grade and the paper will account for the remaining 50%.
● There is no opportunity to ‘retake’ this project to change your grade.

Further Assistance

● Mr. Smith will be available for you if you need help with research, writing your paper, or aid with your creative construction. My free periods are ______________________ and I am available before and after school most days (by appointment please).
● The SHS Library Staff is also very helpful with researching & source-citation!
DISPLAY FORM IDEAS
for the Early Civilization Project
(Mr. Smith's Class)

DIORAMA
(3-D Model)

ARTIFACT
(life-sized replica)

WOODEN ART

SHADOW BOX

DOLLS, PAPER DOLLS or DOLL CLOTHING

HISTORICAL JOURNAL

DRAMATIC PLAY
(SCRIPT)

PAINTING/DRAWING

POTTERY

BUST or SCULPTURE

SONG or POEM

BOARDGAME
Or some Teacher-Approved, Original Idea of Yours?

JUST REMEMBER...

NO POSTERS or POWERPOINTS!
EARLY CIVILIZATIONS PROJECT
GRADE CALCULATION
Mr. Smith’s Class

1 The Paper

● Required Components:
  Introduction _____/5
  Founding of the Civilization_____/5
  Accomplishments of the Civilization_____/5
  Struggles of the Civilization_____/5
  Important People/Rulers/Leaders of the Civilization_____/5
  Fall/Collapse/Decline of the Civilization_____/5
  Conclusion _____/5

● Format of Paper (MLA guidelines):
  MLA Format _____/5

● Works Cited:
  Proper Format _____/5
  Number of Sources _____/5

TOTAL PAPER SCORE_____/50*
*10 points deducted if paper is not at least 3 pages long (Works Cited does not count towards page length)

2 The Creative Construction

  Reflects Time Investment _____/20
  Demonstrates Creativity _____/20
  Accuracy of Information _____/10

TOTAL CREATIVE CONSTRUCTION SCORE_____/50

1 + 2 TOTAL PROJECT SCORE_____/100