

NHD

NATIONAL

HISTORY DAY Breaking Barriers in History

Things you gotta have. See the rulebook at nhd.org

I. Everyone

Title Page. Contains the title, your name(s), Junior Division, and category. Nothing else.

Process paper. A process paper is a description of no more than 500 words explaining how you conducted your research and created and developed your entry. You must conclude your description with an explanation of the relationship of your topic to the contest theme.

- A title page is required as the first page of written material in every category. Your title page must include only the title of your entry, your name(s) and the contest division and category in which you are entered. Do not include your age, grade or school name.
- The first section should explain how you chose your topic.
- The second section should explain how you conducted your research.
- The third section should explain how you selected your presentation category and created your project.
- The fourth section should explain how your project relates to the NHD theme.
- Remember the emphasis is on showing change over time and the impact of your topic.
- Staple the title page to your other papers.
- Include 4 copies of the process paper for the judges, and one for yourself (finalists only)
- Not required for historical papers
- Put this information into your website.

Annotated Bibliography.

- **Divide into primary and secondary sources.**
- Alphabetize by author's last name or article title if there is no author.
- Use MLA or Turabian style. We generally use MLA
- Sample entry:

Bates, Daisy. *The Long Shadow of Little Rock*. 1st ed. New York: David McKay Co. Inc., 1962.

Daisy Bates was the president of the Arkansas NAACP and the one who met and listened to the students each day. This first-hand account was very important to my paper because it made me more aware of the feelings of the people involved

- Minimum of 5 sources, 10 or more if you're serious about advancing to regionals.

***Go to nhd.org and read the detailed rules!!

II. Methods

Historical Exhibit. An exhibit is a visual representation of your research and interpretation of your topic's significance in history, much like a small museum exhibit. The analysis and interpretation of your topic must be clear and evident to the viewer. Labels and captions should be used creatively with visual images and objects to enhance the message of your exhibit.

- Size no larger than 40 inches wide, 30 inches deep, and 6 feet high.
- There is a 500-word limit that applies to all text created by the student that appears on or as part of an exhibit entry. Brief citations crediting the sources of illustrations or quotations included on the exhibit do not count toward the 500-word limit.
- Media devices (e.g., tape recorders, projectors, video monitors, computers) used in an exhibit must not run for more than a total of 3 minutes and are subject to the 500-word limit.

Historical Paper. History papers present information and analyze an event, person, place or idea from the past in writing. Although you might attach a map, chart or photograph that you refer to in your paper, you will rely mainly on words. Writing a paper is a chance to tell what you know and what you think about a part of the past.

- The text of historical papers must be no less than 1,500 and no more than 2,500 words in length.
- Citations—footnotes, endnotes or internal documentation—are required. In-text citations are easy. Just put the author's name and page number in parentheses after you use a quote or unusual fact. For example (Donegan 18) if there is an author or ("Taking Notes is Fun" 35) if there is no author. For more examples see the MLA guidelines at <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/02/>
- Papers must be typed, computer printed, or legibly handwritten in ink (please type!) on plain, white 8.5 x 11-inch paper with 1-inch margins on all sides. Pages must be numbered consecutively and double-spaced with writing on one side and with no more than 12 characters per inch or no less than 10-point (I prefer 12) type. Papers must be stapled in the top left corner and should not be enclosed in any cover or binder. The title page should have no illustrations.
- Submit the paper to me online jmdonegan@yahoo.com

Web Pages: See the NHD site for your rules. Your process paper is part of your website, as is your annotated bibliography. Send me the link at jmdonegan@yahoo.com

Documentaries:

- Maximum length 10 minutes
- You may orally introduce the documentary, but no commentary is permitted once it begins
- Credits are appropriate at the end
- A full title, process paper, and annotated bibliography should be included.

Due Dates:

Monday, Oct. 21

Friday, Oct. 18: Rough draft of the process paper, outline/diagram of display or website.

What are you doing

How are you doing it?

Why are you doing it?

What type of delivery are you planning?

Friday, Oct. 25: Annotated Bibliography due. At least what you have so far

Friday, Nov. 1: Rough draft due. (diagram of exhibit, draft of paper, plan/draft of website, plan/draft of documentary).

Monday, Nov. 18: Projects due at CMS. There's no such thing as a late project!

Saturday, March 7: Regional History Day competition for qualifiers.

*****A very detailed guide to National History Day can be found at <http://nationalhistoryday.org/>

The Thesis Statement

A thesis statement is a central thought that holds your entire National History Day (NHD) project together. Early in the research process we like to call this a working thesis; as you gather your information, this thought can, and probably should, evolve. By the time you present your NHD project, however, you need to have a concrete thesis that is supported by evidence. It should be included in all exhibits, websites, documentaries, and papers.

Thesis = Topic + Theme + Impact. In other words, you are not just introducing your topic, you are creating an argument that expresses your topic's significance and demonstrates how the theme plays a central part.

Sample Statements: Do's and Don'ts

Don't: Martin Luther was born in 1483. He started the Reformation. (Fact)

Do: Beginning in 1517, Martin Luther reacted against Roman Catholic religious practices, especially the sale of indulgences, corruption, and the emphasis on salvation through good works. Luther's Reformation succeeded in igniting a religious revolution, creating a new sect of faith, and later bringing change to the Roman Catholic Church.

Don't: Emiliano Zapata wanted land reform. Want to know why? (Fact/Rhetorical)

Do: Under the banner "Reform, Freedom, Law and Justice" Emiliano Zapata commanded revolutionary forces in southern Mexico to uplift agrarian peasants through land reform. Zapata's role in the Mexican Revolution helped foster a new constitution in 1917 which was later used to redistribute property to the nation's rural poor.

Don't: Franklin D. Roosevelt created the New Deal. Read more below. (Fact/Incomplete)

Do: In response to the stock market crash of 1929, President Franklin Delano Roosevelt initiated a revolutionary "New Deal." This government reaction brought reform to the U.S. banking system and helped get Americans back to work. Roosevelt's goal of restoring economic stability would go unmet, however, until the country mobilized for war.

Don't: Without Norman Borlaug's Green Revolution, billions of people would have died. ("What if?" history that cannot be supported with evidence)

Do: Beginning in 1944, Dr. Norman Borlaug conducted research surrounding disease-resistant wheat varieties. His successes in agricultural reform sparked the Green Revolution in several developing nations struggling with starvation. Reaction to Borlaug's work has been mixed as farming practices have accomplished higher yields while also undermining small scale farms and presenting negative environmental impacts.

Don't: Adolph Hitler was an evil man that killed a lot of Jews. (Opinion)

Do: International reaction to the atrocities of the Holocaust led to a reform of the Law of Armed Conflict through the Geneva Convention of 1949 to include the protection of civilian persons in a time of war. The Fourth Geneva Convention laid the groundwork for international humanitarian law and is used to regulate and enforce war time crimes even today.