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| **Ancient Greece Topics:**   * How did a specific philosopher of ancient Greece impact modern Western thought? * How did democracy develop in ancient Greece?   **Judeo-Christian Topics:**   * How did the writings of St. Augustine impact the development of the early Christian church? * How did Martin Luther’s Protestant Reformation affect European people/countries/thought?   **Shakespearean/European Topics:**   * How did the medieval ideals for courtly love and chivalry develop? * How did Elizabethan theater shape the transition of drama from a religious tool to a highly developed form of secular entertainment and literature? * How did specific historic events or other pieces of literature form a basis for Shakespeare’s works?   **Afghanistan Topics**   * How did the Taliban take power in Afghanistan, and what has been the effect of their regime? * What are the conditions and expectations for women in Afghanistan?   **African Topics**:   * How did one of the ancient civilizations of Africa contribute to the development of modern Africa? * What was the impact of a specific European country’s colonization on a specific region of Africa? * What has been the role and impact of missionaries in Africa? * How are roles and expectations for women shifting in modern Africa?   **Latin American Topics**   * How has a specific Latin American regime impacted the people of that country? * What was the impact of Spanish colonization on Latin and South America?   **Asian Topics**   * How has a specific Asian philosophy impacted modern Western thought? * How are roles and expectations for women shifting in modern Asia?   **Genocide/Cultural Conflict Topics:**   * Choose a specific massacre, conflict, or genocide and discuss its origin, impact, or conclusion or resolution (if any). *Examples include* *Tibet, Rwanda, Bosnia, Russia, Middle East, South Africa, Asia, the United States of America, Latin America, etc.* You may choose one facet of a specific conflict for your focus. * How has/did a specific individual or group provide resistance to genocide or offer aid to victims? * How and why are child soldiers in a specific area recruited and used, what is the effect of this experience on the children, what has been the global response, and what do experts advise?   **Honors only**   * Discuss the opposing views of Henry Schliemann’s “discovery” of Troy. * How did Christianity shift from being a Jewish sect to a Gentile religion in the early A.D. years? * Choose a few character allusions from Dante’s *Inferno* and discuss their political, social, or religious “crimes,” and examine Dante’s rationale for including them in his text. * How did international politics impact the conflict between the Soviets and the Mujahideen in Afghanistan? How did C.S. Lewis’ changing religious perspectives influence his writing?   **Standard only**   * How did Albert Camus’ personal life affect his writing or help to form his philosophy? * How have the ideas of Absurdism and Existentialism changed the focus of modern philosophy? |

10th Grade Research Paper Expectations

Common Core Standards: RI1, RI2, RI3, W2, W4, W5, W6, W7, W8, L1, L2, L3

Honors: Minimum of 4 pages, minimum of 5 1/2

Standard: Minimum of 3 pages, maximum of 4 ½

All Students:

Introduction Paragraph

* Includes necessary background information
* Establishes focus and tone
* Must have as its last sentence a precise, thesis statement that establishes the purpose and focus of the paper
  + Sample thesis: Auschwitz, the largest and perhaps most brutal of the Nazi concentration camps, lives in infamy as a reminder of man’s capacity for cruelty

Body Paragraphs

* Must begin with a precise topic sentence that sets the focus on a specific facet of the thesis or contributes to the development of the thesis
  + Sample topic sentence: Mengele’s early life did not teach him any particular respect or compassion for others.
* Must include factual details that support the topic sentence of that specific paragraph.
* Sources must be cited for information that is not common knowledge**: if the ideas aren’t yours, credit your source!**
  + If you put information into your own words, don’t quote, but do cite.
  + If you use your source’s words, do quote and do cite.
* Analyze and explain the information you present. Your body paragraph should not consist entirely or even primarily of quotes! Quotes are used to support YOUR writing, not to replace it.
* Synthesize information from a variety of sources. A paragraph should not depend entirely on one source. You are organizing your essay by ideas/concepts, and not by sources, so those ideas/concepts should be supported by research from multiple sources. (Basically, don’t make each paragraph a summary of a particular source.)
* Must end with a concluding sentence that ties the information in the paragraph together and allows for a smooth transition to the next idea.

Conclusion Paragraph

* Let’s make this clear immediately: do **NOT** copy and paste your thesis statement into this paragraph. You are to reinforce the concept of the thesis, not regurgitate its words.
* Must sum up major points of significance.
* Must arrive at some kind of conclusion. It should answer the question, “So What?”
* Give your reader “One to Grow On.” This means leaving your reader with a meaningful thought, or suggesting a call to action. Avoid generalities and clichés: so, basically, if your paper is on genocide, you need a little more than just telling us genocide is bad.
* Do not introduce new evidence in the conclusion. The show is over, and this is your final bow, not a new scene.
* Do not bring yourself into the paper here (or anywhere).

10th Grade Research Paper Rubric

Introduction \_\_\_\_\_\_\_/10 points

Includes effective hook

Includes helpful or necessary background information

Leads logically to the thesis

Thesis \_\_\_\_\_\_\_/10 points

Precise and focused

Relevant to the content of the paper (it’s what the paper is actually about)

Located at the end of the introduction

Body \_\_\_\_\_\_\_/30 points

Topic Sentence: sets focus of paragraph

Evidence and Support

Relevant to the topic sentence and the essay

Includes thorough analysis of the evidence

Synthesizes sources

Concluding Sentence: ties information together

Conclusion \_\_\_\_\_\_\_/10 points

Sums up main points

Arrives at meaningful conclusion

Gives reader something to think about

MLA \_\_\_\_\_\_\_/20 points

Paper is formatted correctly

In-text citations are correctly executed

Works Cited page is complete and correctly formatted

Works Cited page matches the internal citations

Mechanics \_\_\_\_\_\_\_/10 points

Free of spelling errors

Free of grammar/usage errors

Sentence structure is correct (no run-ons or fragments)

Style \_\_\_\_\_\_\_/10 points

Varied sentence structure

No personal pronouns (I, you, me, we, us, etc.)

Consistent and appropriate verb tense

No contractions

Uses formal diction (no slang!!!!!)