**Events that Changed America Project**

**Question**: *Has life changed more in the last 70 years (1945- 2017) or the 70 years before that (1877-1945)?*

**Part 1: Major Events**

* With your partner, create a list of 8 major events from your time period that support your argument.
* On the provided summary card template, type the name, date, and a short description (1-3 complete sentences) of its economic, social, or political impact for each major event. Print and cut each card out.
* Print or illustrate an image for each major event.

**Part 2: Thesis Statement**

* On the provided thesis template, type in your argument. Your thesis statement needs to address the counterargument, take a strong stance, and list at least three reasons that support your opinion.
* Enlarge the font so that it fits the entire sheet of paper and print this page out.

**Part 3: Essay**

* Type a persuasive essay that supports your thesis statement by using the provided essay format.
* Essays should be 12 point font, times roman font, and at least five paragraphs.
* Print out your essay.

**Part 4: Putting it Together**

* Put everything together on your project board just like the image shown below.

**Part 5: Presentation and Debate**

* Defend your thesis to the class by presenting your board and discussing each major event.
* Be ready to debate with classmates/Ms. Adcox over your choices. *(think about rebuttals)*

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **MAJOR EVENTS**  1.  Date:  Impact:  Image  2.  Date:  Impact:  Image  3.  Date:  Impact:  Image  4.  Date:  Impact:  Image | **CHANGING AMERICA**  **(\_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_)**  Names  Large Thesis Statement  Essay Typed | **MAJOR EVENTS**  5.  Date:  Impact:  Image  6.  Date:  Impact:  Image  7.  Date:  Impact:  Image  8.  Date:  Impact:  Image |

**Rubric**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Components** | **Level 1** | **Level 2** | **Level 3** | **Level 4** |
| **Major Events** | *<5 points*  \*5 images  \*5 complete summary cards | *10 points*  \*6 images  \*6 complete summary cards | *15 points*  \*7 images  \*7 complete summary cards | *20 points*  \*8 images  \*8 complete summary cards |
| **Thesis Statement** | *<5 points*  \*Thesis is not present or does not follow thesis format | *10 points*  \*Missing a few required parts  \*Semi followed thesis format | *15 points*  \*Completed all required parts  \*Followed thesis format  \*General stance | *20 points*  \*Completed all required parts  \*Followed thesis format  \*Strong stance |
| **Essay** | *<5 points*  \*0-2 complete paragraphs  \*Did not follow essay format  \*Major mistakes made | *10 points*  \*3-4 complete paragraphs  \*Semi followed essay format  \*Many minor mistakes made | *15 points*  \*5 complete paragraphs  \*Followed essay format  \*A few minor mistakes made | *20 points*  \*5 complete paragraphs  \*Followed essay format  \*Well-written and historically accurate |
| **Board Creativity and**  **Organization** | *<5 points*  \*Board is incomplete, messy, shows little to no effort and/or is disorganized | *10 points*  \*Board is complete but is unorganized and/or lacks creativity (i.e. images are weak) | *15 points*  \*Board is complete and neat but lacks some creativity or originality | *20 points*  \*Board, illustrations, and question cards are clean, neat, and organized  \*Project shows a high level of originality and effort |
| **Presentation and Debate** | *<5 points*  \*Poor  \*Did not support thesis/rebuttals and could not describe events | *10 points*  \*OK  \*Vaguely supported thesis/rebuttals and did not describe each event | *15 points*  \*Good presentation!  \*Supported thesis/ rebuttals and described each event but may have been too general (missing details) | *20 points*  \*Great presentation!  \*Strongly supported thesis and rebuttals  \*Described each event in detail and their connection to the thesis |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **ERA** | **EVENTS THAT CHANGED AMERICA** |
| **Gilded Age** |  |
| **Progressive Era** |  |
| **Imperialism** |  |
| **WWI** |  |
| **1920s** |  |
| **1930s** |  |
| **WWII** |  |
| **Cold War** |  |
| **Civil Rights** |  |
| **1970s and 1980s** |  |
| **1990s+** |  |

**EXAMPLE #1 (Low)**

The Great Depression

Date: 1929-1939

Impact: Many people lost their jobs and were poor.

*\*THIS IS NOT AN IMPACT!!!*

*\*IMPACT= How did this event change history???*

**EXAMPLE #2 (Better)**

19th Amendment

Date: 1920

Impact: Women’s suffrage was finally achieved after the passage of the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution in 1920. Women were now given the right to vote and have a voice in government.

**EXAMPLE #3 (Best)**

Vietnam War

Date: 1965- 1973

Impact: The Vietnam War created a massive anti-war movement in America. Opposition to the war led to an unprecedented amount of protests and student activism and media coverage of the uncensored carnage shook the faith of citizens. Many Americans accused the U.S. of unfairly targeting the poor and middle classes for the draft and using the Communist threat as a scapegoat to hide imperialistic intentions. The Vietnam war led to a huge amount of distrust for the government and many to oppose future foreign interventions. Not only that, Vietnam continues to be a Communist country to this day.

Event Name

Date:

Impact:

Event Name

Date:

Impact:

Event Name

Date:

Impact:

Event Name

Date:

Impact:

Event Name

Date:

Impact:

Event Name

Date:

Impact: