

For this paper assignment, you have the opportunity to choose the topic! The instructions for this assignment are detailed below. If you do not understand, please ask me immediately.

Instructions:

1. Consider the topics below and choose the area that you wish to research.

TOPIC CHOICES:

1. How successful were progressive reforms during the period 1890 to 1915 with respect to ONE of the following: Industrial Conditions; Urban Life; Politics
2. Was new U.S. foreign policy and the growth of American influence in world affairs in the late 1800s and early 1900s imperialistic? Why or Why Not?
3. To what extent did the United States achieve the objectives that led it to enter the First World War?

2. Research the topic and write a **short** paper (2 - 4 pages) that presents your answer to the topic question. As is normal procedure, begin with a strong introduction/thesis and include specific evidence and analysis in each supporting paragraph. Guidelines and reminders are included below.
3. Find two (2) primary sources that support your argument and include them in the "appendix" of your report (**you must include a copy of the source**). For each source, write a paragraph explaining how it supports your historical argument. Please try to include all of this - your paper, primary sources, and explanations - in one document to submit online. If this is not possible, please see me before the due date.

Examples of Primary Sources:

Letters
Acts, Laws, Executive Orders
Speeches
Newspaper articles
Political Cartoons

****Use the class website, research links page, and books available in the classroom and/or library to find sources.**

Guidelines and Reminders for the paper:

- Margins should be set at 1" on all four sides and fonts should not exceed a rating of 12 points;
- Proper MLA format is required and **any information gained from an outside source, whether quoted or not, must be cited in-text and on the works cited page.**
- Proper spelling and grammar is expected. Please refer to the writing advice document online, as well as the *Writers, Inc.* text.

Grading Rubric:

Please see next page.

PAPER 6 - GRADING RUBRIC

Part One. Paper Assignment - 70 points (70% of score)

Outstanding Paper, score: 70 67 (score depends on overall effectiveness)

- Paper has a clear introduction and thesis that presents an effective and complete argument;
- Supporting paragraphs contain adequate, specific evidence to prove the argument;
- Supporting paragraphs contain analysis that makes a compelling argument;
- Paper is well organized and well written;
- Research sources are used effectively.
- Proper MLA format, sources cited correctly.

Excellent Paper, score: 65 63 62

One of the following areas not addressed, as noted.

Satisfactory Paper, score: 60 58 56 54

- Paper does contain a thesis with an acceptable introduction;
- Supporting paragraphs contain some evidence and analysis to prove an argument (level of evidence and analysis affects scoring);
- Paper is mostly well organized and written;
- Most research sources are used effectively.
- May/may not have imbalance or slight inaccuracies that do not affect the overall argument.
- Proper MLA format; sources cited correctly (**must apply to receive a grade in this category**)

Fair Paper, score: 52 50 48 45 40

- Paper does not have enough evidence and analysis to make an effective argument (**automatic**);
- May contain major errors; May not use research sources effectively.

Incomplete Paper, score: 35 25 15 5 0

- Does not meet the basic requirements of the assignment, as noted:

Part Two. Primary Source Assignment - 30 points (30% of score)

Source 1: 0-15 points - Based on effectiveness/appropriateness of source; Adequate explanation relating the source to the topic

Source 2: 0-15 points - Based on effectiveness/appropriateness of source; Adequate explanation relating the source to the topic

Final Scoring:

_____	+	_____	+	_____	=	_____	-	_____	=	[_____]
Paper		Source 1		Source 2		Subtotal		Spelling/Gram. Errors		FINAL SCORE