

Important Figures in American History Essay

Name	Ch.	Name	Ch.
Columbus, Christopher	2	Tecumseh	8
Smith, John	3	Clay, Henry	8,9,10
Hutchinson, Anne	3	Calhoun, John C.	8,10
Penn, William	3	Jackson, Andrew	8,9,10
Adams, Samuel	3	Monroe, James	9
Washington, George	4,5,7	Adams, John Quincy	9
Jefferson, Thomas	4,5,7,8	John Jacob Astor	11
Paine, Thomas	4	James K. Polk	11
Hancock, John	4	Eli Whitney	12
Franklin, Benjamin	4,5	Sarah G. Bagley	12
Sherman, Roger	4,5	Nat Turner	13
Jones, John Paul	4	Dorothea Dix	14
Jay, John	4,7	Sojourner Truth	14
Madison, James	5,6,7,8	Harriet Tubman	14
Mason, George	5	Susan B. Anthony	14
Hamilton, Alexander	7	Lucy Stone	14
Adams, John	4,7,8	Fredrick Douglass	14
Marshall, John	8	William Lloyd Garrison	14
Lewis, Meriwether	8	John Brown	15
Clark, William	8	Stephen A. Douglas	15
Sacagawea	8	Harriet Beecher Stowe	15
Pike, Zebulon	8	Roger B. Taney	15

It has been suggested that our American History textbook has too be shortened. The list of names above are being considered for removal from the history textbook. You need to research one of the historical figures from the list above and write an essay persuading the textbook publisher to keep your historical figure in the American History book. You need to detail your choice's contributions to American history and explain why these contributions are significant. You need **at least 3** online sources for your essay, which must be turned in with your essay. You may use one print resource with the approval of your 8th grade American History teacher. Juvenile biographies (level 6-8) from the county public library or our school library are preferred.

Persuasive Essay

Paper Content

- 500 - 800 Words
- Persuasive essay on why your American Historical Figure should be included in our history book
- Opening Paragraph (must be in your words - not based on source material)
- Thesis Statement (reason for... see above) included in Opening Paragraph
- At least 3 direct quotes (with proper citations) from source material backing up your thesis statement
- Final paragraph (conclusion) summarizing your position (own words - but may contain a quote from a source)

Paper Construction

- Microsoft Word
- 14 pt Times New Roman
- Double Spaced
- Title Centered - 18 pt Times New Roman (bold)
- Picture - left corner; page one (no more than 3" wide) - Picture should be aligned with the top line of text in the first paragraph and the left margin
- Header with Name, Class & Due Date (SEE sample in presentation)
- Footer with Page Number centered
- Separate Bibliography page with same header with title (Bibliography or Works Cited) centered and 18 pt Times New Roman (bold)

Notecards

- All notes on 4 x 6 lined notecards
- Must turn in at least 25 cards
- No more than one idea per card
- All cards must have a color coded upper right corner to show where the information on the card came from
- All cards must have a title on the top red line
 - Titles should be somewhat broad
 - **Titles are added near the end after most of the notecards are written to help with the organization of information and making an outline**
- All cards must have a topic sentence
- All other information on the card should be phrases in a bullet list beneath the topic sentence

PERSUASIVE ESSAY

GRADE REPORT

NAME: _____

CLASS: _____

NOTECARDS

TITLE LINE	<u>5</u>
MAIN IDEA SENTENCE	<u>5</u>
SUPPORTING DETAILS	<u>5</u>
USE OF SOURCES	<u>5</u>

THESIS CARD

THESIS	<u>5</u>
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SOURCE PAPERS

FORM & NUMBER OF	<u>5</u>
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EXTRA CREDIT

TURNED IN ON TIME	_____
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WRITTEN TEXT

FOLLOWS CARDS	<u>5</u>
USE OF CARDS	<u>5</u>
FOLLOWS FORM	<u>5</u>
USE OF QUOTES	<u>5</u>
CITING OF SOURCES	<u>5</u>
BIBLIOGRAPHY	<u>5</u>
INTRO & CONCLUSION	<u>10</u>
CONTENT	<u>10</u>
DEVELOPS THESIS	<u>10</u>
GENERAL GRAMMAR	<u>10</u>

TOTAL POINTS: 100

ESSAY GRADE: _____

FINAL CHECK LIST

Before handing in essay check the following points:

- Spelling
- Punctuation
- Grammar
- Sentence structure (fragments and run ons)
- Correct division into paragraphs
- Pages in correct order
- Pages numbered correctly
- Bibliography included
- Bibliography properly formatted
- Introduction included
- Conclusion included
- Essay written in third person only (except for direct quotes)
- Omission of phrases such as “this paper . . .” or “this essay . . .”, etc.
- Single space following words and commas, single space following periods ending sentences
- No abbreviations except for courtesy or honorific titles (Mr., Dr., etc.), appropriate initials and acronyms (after they have been written out in full the first time)
- Notecards are in order of use in paper
- Essay includes at least 3 quotations properly cited
- Quotations longer than 3 lines are properly formatted (see me)
- Numbers of less than 3 numerals are expressed in words
- Dates** and **Times** should always be expressed as **Numerals** instead of words
- All people are identified when first introduced in text
- Full names are used when people are identified
- Essay does not become too familiar with subject such as using George instead of George Washington, Washington, General Washington or President Washington
- FINAL SUGGESTION: Slowly read essay aloud to yourself to catch errors.

Name _____

Class _____

Directions for Turning in Essay, Cards & Sources

- I. Essay
 - A. Pages in order and neatly arranged
 - B. Bibliography should be last page
 - C. One staple in the upper left corner
- II. Cards
 - A. Thesis card with name on top
 - B. Used cards in order of use
 - C. Blank notecard
 - D. Unused cards sorted by color (order is unimportant)
 - E. Two rubber bands around the whole package
- III. Sources
 - A. Final Checklist on top with name & class
 - B. In order of Bibliography
 - C. Sources of more than one page stapled
 - D. Packet of sources paper clipped with large clip