Renaissance Period Research Project

Overview

What exactly was the Renaissance? This research project will ask you to investigate one of the following figures from the Renaissance era and explore how this figure exemplifies [represents] the Renaissance era that contributed both to the destruction of the medieval mind-set and the creation of the modern world.

Project Objectives

- To gain an understanding of and appreciation into the significance and impact of the era of the Renaissance.
- To learn the skills of conducting an in-depth research project, utilizing electronic sources.
- To be able to effectively communicate information and ideas via a visual PowerPoint presentation and a short speech on the historical figure.

Research Questions

- Overview summary of the figure placing them within the Renaissance time period and stating the importance/significance of their contribution (i.e. why are they important?)
- Brief biographical sketch (including dates, country & city that they lived in, notable life events, etc.)
**Explanation** of how they exemplify the era and spirit of the Renaissance period. Tell us how their work/achievements are a reflection of the Renaissance style.

You must support your research with a PowerPoint presentation that uses carefully selected visuals (at least two examples of paintings, sketches, diagrams, sculpture, book, etc.) that illustrate, support, and extend your analysis. For example, “This painting expresses the Renaissance period and worldview because it ...” or “It is a great example of the artist’s new technique of ....”

**Guidelines**

1) Create at least a 5 slide PowerPoint presentation on a selected Renaissance figure. *(You may add more slides to it if needed, but 5 is the absolute minimum.)* **NOTE:** There is a specific power point template that I want you to use for this presentation. *(See links below)*

2) A brief 5 minute speech on the figure that will accompany the PowerPoint and expand on the information in the slides (this **must** be a more in-depth explanation of the visuals that are being used in the presentation). Notecards should be used for reference. Notecards will be turned in to Mr. Day for grading after your presentation.

3) PowerPoint must be uploaded to Mr. Day’s teacher website by the end of the class on the last day we are in the computer lab.

4) Presentations will be given in class on Sept. 3rd - 4th.

**Documents Needed:**

1. Renaissance Research Checklist

2. Visual Graphic Evaluation Rubric

3. Renaissance Research Project Starter Template (Powerpoint) (you will need to save this template into your user folder for use)
Renaissance Figures: Politicians, Artists & Writers

VISUAL ARTISTS

1. Michelangelo (*The Pieta*)
2. Raphael (*The School of Athens*)
3. Donatello (*David*)
4. Filippo Brunelleschi (*Florence Cathedral*)
5. Jan van Eyck (*The Arnolfini Wedding Portrait*)
6. Albrecht Dürer (*Melancolia I*)
7. Leonardo da Vinci (*The Virgin of the Rocks*)

WRITERS & PLAYWRIGHTS

1. William Shakespeare
2. Baldassare Castiglione
3. Christine de Pisan
4. Francesco Petrarch
5. Geoffrey Chaucer
6. Dante Alighieri

Politicians

1. Francesco Sforza
2. Giovanni de’ Medici
3. Cosimo de Medici
4. Pope Leo X
5. Lorenzo de Medici
Renaissance Figure Checklist

Your name: ___________________________ Class: _________

Name of Person Selected: ____________________________

1. What do I need to know? (analyze the assignment)
   Check each off as you find the information
   - Biographical Information
   - Important Works
   - Significance/Influence /Importance of their work
   - Renaissance World View
   - How they exemplify the era, characteristics and spirit of the Renaissance

2. Completion of Research Notes Worksheet?
   - Information Accurate?
   - Completion of all parts of worksheet?
3. Development of your Research?

- Did you use the Power Point template that was provided for you?
- Overview Summary of the person: (Brief biographical sketch; dates; country of origin & residence, notable life events)
- How did they fit into the Renaissance period?
- Why are they important or significant?
- What was their contribution to the Renaissance period?
- How they exemplify the era, characteristics and spirit of the Renaissance

4. Notecards?

- Did you make notecards for your presentation?
- Does the information on the notecards provide more detailed and accurate information about the person and specific works?

5. Does your presentation last 5 minutes?

- Did you practice & time your presentation before doing it in class?
# EVALUATION FOR VISUAL / GRAPHIC COMMUNICATIONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Presentation CRITERIA</th>
<th>SELF-ASSESSMENT</th>
<th>POINTS</th>
<th>TEACHER ASSESSMENT</th>
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<td><strong>Critical Reasoning</strong></td>
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<td>Answers all parts of the question(s):</td>
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<td>• Brief biographical information</td>
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<td>• Renaissance worldview</td>
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<td>• How they exemplify the era and spirit of the Renaissance</td>
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<td>• Evidence is detailed, correct and cited</td>
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<td>• Concise and easy to understand <em>(student has used their own words - NOT plagiarized)</em></td>
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<td>• Demonstrates understanding of the material/vocabulary terms</td>
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<td><strong>Effective Communication</strong></td>
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<td>• Self-explanatory</td>
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<td>• Oral presentation expands on details and provides a deeper explanation of visuals and information</td>
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<td>• completion &amp; use of note cards</td>
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<td><strong>Excellence of Final Product</strong></td>
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<td>• Creative, interesting, and eye-catching</td>
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