**Ancient Civilization Research Paper Guidelines**

Take seriously look over some of the below peoples. Try to pick one out that you find interesting. If you wish to choose a different one you can with my approval. \*Make sure that you think there is enough information readily available to do a research project on them.

An Outline of your paper is due by the end of class Friday, September 8nd.

You must have 500 words written, typed, and turned in by the end of class Tuesday, September 15th.

Your 1st draft is due by the start of class Friday, September 22nd.

From Friday, September 22nd to Friday September 29th, one of your peers (of my choosing) is going to proofread your 1st draft and make suggestions for editing, content, and how to fix any other issues you may have.

The finished paper is due by the start of class Friday, October 6th.

\*You will not be graded for quality until your final finished paper is turned in.

For each day you are late on any of these you will be docked 10%. Being late for any one of these does not give you more days to finish the latter assignments… these dates are set! This is in preparation for college where you have set due dates and they are your responsibility.

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| **Carthage** | **Assyrians** |
| **Khmer** | **Maurya** |
| **Phoenicia** | **Hittites** |
| **Anuradhapura Kingdom** | **Mitanni** |
| **Kush** | **Xiongnu** |
| **Srivijaya** | **Huns** |
| **Indo-Greek Kingdom** | **Greco-Bactrian Kingdom** |
| **Medes** | **Scythians** |
| **Sea Peoples:** the Collapse of the Bronze Age | |
| **Roman Kingdom** Beginning of Rome to end of Monarchy 509 B.C. | |

* Research papers cannot contain errors of spelling, grammar, or punctuation. **Proofread carefully.**
  + Proofread your paper carefully for spelling and typing mistakes. A sloppy paper distracts attention from what you are saying and makes the reader (me) wonder if your preparation for the paper and your thinking were careless too. If your word-processor has a spell-checker, use it, but remember that it will not catch typos that happen to be words (e.g., “marital” vs. “martial”).
* All research **papers will be evaluated for length by word count**, rather than pages, to account for differences in fonts, margins, pictures, etc. In Word or Docs, you can check your word count by selecting Tools>Word Count.
  + Papers must be **1,200 to 1,500 words**.
* Papers must include five sources, only four of which may be electronic (internet).
  + All sources must be cited according to **MLA standards**.
    - **I suggest Purdue OWL MLA Formatting and Style Guide https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/01/**
  + Students may use Wikipedia to help choose a topic, or to find possible sources for further research. However, Wikipedia may not be included as a reference in the bibliography.
  + No more than 33% of your paper can be quoted material and really that’s too much. If quotes are in your paper make sure they serve a purpose. You can't just string together a bunch of quotes to make a paper.
* **All** research papers must be submitted in Microsoft Word format, with a .doc or .docx suffix. No other formats are acceptable.
* **All** research papers must be submitted electronically in a ready to print format. If you can print it then please do so as well as they will be printed for ease of grading regardless.
* I expect a descriptive writing paper. ***Descriptive* writing** merely says what happened or what another author has discussed; it provides an account of the topic. **It does not give your opinion or say I, we, us, you, or our**... be **very** wary of using any **personal pronouns**
  + If you come upon some exciting to you question that you wish to explain analytically then you need my permission to do so in this assignment.
* **No contractions. This is a formal paper.** E.g. Use did not instead of didn’t.
* Your paper needs an introduction, a middle body section, and a conclusion. These sections should not be set off with individual headings.
  + The *introduction* lays out your topic… “Tell me what you’re gonna say.”
  + The *middle section* presents your information… “Tell me.”
  + The conclusion pulls together the main points and may relate the topic back to wider historical issues. “Tell me what you told me, and tell me why you told me.”
* Please use B.C. instead of B.C.E.
* **If you plagiarize, you will be given a zero! No exceptions!**

**Cite your sources!**

**Clarity of Organization and Paragraph Structure**

* Put your name on it. Really, put your name on it. I don’t care if it came from your e-mail.
* Give it a simple title.
* The body of your paper should be organized into several main sections, each of which deals with a given sub-topic, issue, or question within your general subject. In each section, you will have one or more paragraphs focusing on individual aspects of that topic.
* A paragraph consists of a block of material about a particular subject or about a specific point. A paragraph should develop the subject or point it is making; hence it normally contains at least three sentences in addition to the topic sentence and may have a concluding sentence as well.
* Each paragraph should begin with a general topic sentence that indicates what subject the rest of the paragraph will discuss, what issue it will explore, or what point it will make.
* The remaining sentences in each paragraph provide more detail or evidence about the main topic.
* Each paragraph within a section should also be clearly related to the one before and the one after, creating an even, logical flow. If the link is not readily apparent, you should include a sentence, which describes the transition.
  + Between sections you will need a transition or linking statement, indicating that you are moving on to a new topic. Just make sure I know when you are changing the subject.
* Your final paper needs to be double spaced!

**Here are things to consider for your research paper. Make sure you cover at least 3 of these topics.**

**Origin Story** (Their History), **People** (Who are these people), **Military** (Powerful/Weak/Great Victories/Losses), **Foreign Relations** (do they play well with others/who/how/and why), **Government** (great/bad/ kings/queens/why they are remembered or should be), **Economy** (are they skilled traders/farmers/how do they make money other than by conquering), **Religion** (Who is their god/s and tell me about them and how they are worshipped), **Language** **and Writing System** (Can we read it/tell me about it), **Architecture** (do they have any buildings remaining/building materials/try to describe them), **Arts and Sciences** (what are their scholarly achievements that everyone should know about), **Environment** (where were they/Capital/ desert/river/ tell me about them/is it different there now), **Mysteries** (what is weird or neat about them/cannot be explained), **Legacy** (how are they remembered/why are they remembered/why should they be remembered)

**You will be graded on the categories of:**

**Grammar and Sentence Structure**

**MLA Citation** within your paper and at the end of your paper (Works Cited)

**Clarity of Organization and Paragraph Structure**

**Is your paper a high quality, descriptive writing, formal research paper?**

**Do you have at least 5 sources with 1 being a book?**

**Do you have too many quotes (1/3rd of your paper)?**

**Is your paper 1200-1500 words?**

**Did you plagiarize? If so, you will receive a 0%.**