**Research Skills Project**

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|  | INC | Fully meets Ex | exemplary |
| Topic is explained and a reason is given for WHY the topic was chosen | -background info about the topic is not given  -No reason for choosing the topic is given | -topic is clearly explained with vital background info given  -a valid and personal reason is given for why the topic was chosen |  |
| “Proof” of sources | -no clear source of info is given  Ex. This was from the Info Trac database.  Ex. I found this on the internet | -references clearly indicate where the info came from, but it is not in MLA format  Ex. I found this in an article called “Ozone Myths” on Infotrac  Ex. I found this on Youtube and it is called “Filthy Rich” | -resources are fully referenced in MLA format  Ex. "Mugabe Appoints New Vice-Presidents As Zanu-PF Succession Battle Continues." *Africa News Service* 12 Dec. 2014. *Global Issues In Context*. Web. 12 Dec. 2014. |
| Explanation of why sources were “Good” | -no valid reason is given | -describes why each source was valuable  Ex. The article “Crude, Dirty, and Dangerous” was good because it provided me with lots of stats and a point of view that agrees with what I am trying to prove | -explains validity of all sources AND describes why each individual resource was valuable  Ex. The article “Crude, Dirty, and Dangerous” was good because it was found in the New York Times which was founded in 1851 (which means that it has been around a long time...they must be doing something right!) and has won 122 Pulitzer Prizes which is more than any other newspaper.  It is the 18th highest circulated newspaper in the world which shows that people worldwide use it as a source for info. The article had lots of stats on the dangers of pipelines which gave me specific details to support my arguments. |
| Shows an understanding of the subject area explored by revealing SPECIFIC info that was learned | -Info is flawed (ex. It doesn’t apply to the topic, or it doesn’t support your argument.)  -3 (or fewer) specific sources are discussed | -specific quotes, examples, stats, or other evidence support your argument  Ex. of one piece of info:  In the article “Crude, Dirty, and Dangerous”, it shows that over the last 10 years, leak detection systems identified only one out of every 20 reported pipeline leaks.” -there are 4 specific sources of info discussed  -4 specific sources of info are discussed | --specific evidence supports your argument **and the importance of each piece of info is clearly explained**  Ex. of one piece of info:  The article “Crude, Dirty, and Dangerous”, reveals that Oil spill data from federal regulators show that over the last 10 years, leak detection systems identified only one out of 20 reported pipeline leaks which supports my claim that these pipelines are not as safe as we are being told.  - 5 or more specific sources of info are discussed |

**Research Skills Project:**

1. In a complete paragraph, explain the topic that was researched and WHY that topic was chosen.

2. Identify specific articles/studies/stories/movies/news clips/ videos… that you read or viewed and cite them using MLA style referencing.

Ex. "Mugabe Appoints New Vice-Presidents As Zanu-PF Succession Battle Continues." *Africa News Service* 12 Dec. 2014. *Global Issues In Context*. Web. 12 Dec. 2014.

3. In paragraph form, explain why you chose the specific articles/ studies/stories/movies/news clips/videos…that you read or viewed. **Be sure to explain why you believe them to be valid** and useful resources.

Ex. The article “Crude, Dirty, and Dangerous” was good because it was found in the New York Times which was founded in 1851 (which means that it has been around a long time...they must be doing something right!) and has won 122 Pulitzer Prizes which is more than any other newspaper.  It is the 18th highest circulated newspaper in the world which shows that people worldwide use it as a source for info. The article had lots of stats on the dangers of pipelines which gave me specific details to support my arguments

4. In paragraph form, provide examples of specific info. (stats/facts/examples/case studies…) that you gathered during your research.

**Ex. In the article “Crude, Dirty, and Dangerous”, the author reveals that Oil spill data maintained by federal regulators show that over the last 10 years, advanced leak detection systems identified only one out of every 20 reported pipeline leaks. The article also stated that every day more than one million barrels of oil flow to refineries in the United States from western Canada’s oil sands region. A third important piece of information gathered from this particular article is that U.S. federal law doesn’t require pipeline operators to reveal what is being transported through their pipelines.**

2018 Research Skills Project- SAMPLE PROJECT

1. The argument that I decided to make was that African Americans and African Canadians have endured extreme racism in North America. I specifically looked at the time period from the late 1800s to the 1940s because during this time there was still slavery and people could be “owned” and treated like possessions. Eventually my research brought me to the Harlem Renaissance and I looked at how members of the negro (a term that the African Americans used to describe themselves at the time) community used poetry to speak out about the treatment that they endure. I chose this topic because I recently read a book called “Uncle Tom’s Cabin” which told the tragic story of some slaves and the treatment they had to endure. I was motivated to educate myself about this topic and use this knowledge to educate others.
2. Research Resources:

"Who was 'Jim Crow'?" *Junior Scholastic/Current Events* 4 Feb. 2013: T-5(2). *Global Issues In Context*. Web. 16 Dec. 2014.

Broussard, Patricia A. "Black women's post-slavery silence syndrome: a twenty-first century remnant of slavery, Jim Crow, and systemic racism - who will tell her stories?" *Journal of Gender, Race and Justice* Spring 2013: 373+. *Global Issues In Context*. Web. 16 Dec. 2014.

Brown, Bryan. "The Harlem Renaissance: in the 1920s, artists and writers in 'the capital of black America' produced an explosion of creativity in music and culture." *Junior Scholastic/Current Events* 17 Feb. 2014: 12+. *Global Issues In Context*. Web. 16 Dec. 2014.

"Harlem in Vogue - the Art and Poetry of Langston Hughes." *New Internationalist* Sept. 2011: 40. *Global Issues In Context*. Web. 16 Dec. 2014.

Goffe, Leslie Gordon. "Maya Angelou--the most banned author in the US." *New African* July 2014: 62. *Global Issues In Context*. Web. 16 Dec. 2014.

1. The articles that I chose were very useful because they gave me the base knowledge needed to understand the issues of segregation and racism. **All of the above sources of info were found on the EBSCO HOST database which is a collection of high-quality articles licensed from reputable publishers recognized by library professionals, and chosen to meet the specific needs of researchers.** The article "Black women's post-slavery silence syndrome: a twenty-first century remnant of slavery, Jim Crow, and systemic racism - who will tell her stories?" **was published in a peer reviewed (this means that it was looked at by other experts in the area discussed and scrutinized) journal sponsored by the University of Iowa** and provided me with facts about how the African American community was impacted by slavery. The article "Who was 'Jim Crow'?" gave me a base knowledge of what the written and unwritten rules of the “Jim Crow” south were. An article that helped me learn about the Harlem Renaissance was. "The Harlem Renaissance: in the 1920s, artists and writers in 'the capital of black America' produced an explosion of creativity in music and culture." **Both of these articles were found in the Junior Scholastic current events publication which is a magazine for educators and is the world’s largest publisher of educational books and serves customers in 165 countries in 45 different languages.** I also learned about the poetry of Langston Hughes and Maya Angelou and the articles "Harlem in Vogue - the Art and Poetry of Langston Hughes." and . "Maya Angelou--the most banned author in the US." were useful because I got to know about the poets and the impact of their works. **The Langston Hughes piece was found in the New Internationalist which is published in Oxford England and recently won an award for “Best International Coverage” at the Utne Independent Press awards**. The Maya Angelou piece was found in the New African monthly magazine **which provides analysis on African politics and is one of the top selling publications on the African continent**.
2. The research I did helped me find many facts, statistics and relevant information so that I can say I am “well informed” about my topic. For example, the article “Who Was Jim Crow” taught me where the term came from**: “Jim Crow wasn't an actual person. He was a character Invented by Thomas Dartmouth "Daddy" Rice, a white actor and musician. In 1828, Rice darkened his face with burnt cork to portray a ragged, comical black man named Jim Crow. During the routine, Rice also sang a song he wrote called ‘Jump Jim Crow.’ Rice's skit became popular among whites across the country. Over time, ‘Jim Crow’ became a negative term used to refer to blacks.”** The article also taught me many of the written and unwritten “laws” of the Jim Crow South including:
3. **The Jim Crow laws enforced racial segregation in public places, Including parks, hospitals, end schools. Many of the laws also denied blacks the right to vote, which had been granted in 1870 by the 15th Amendment**
4. **A Black male could not offer his hand (to shake hands) with a White male because it implied being socially equal. Obviously, a Black male could not offer his hand or any other part of his body to a White woman, because he risked being accused of rape.**
5. **Whites did not use courtesy titles of respect when referring to Blacks, for example, Mr., Mrs., Miss., Sir, or Ma'am. Instead, Blacks were called by their first names. Blacks had to use courtesy titles when referring to Whites, and were not allowed to call them by their first names.**

The article “The Harlem Renaissance” helped me understand how Harlem in the 1920s was an important place for African Americans because it was a place where they were able to express themselves artistically. The article states that **“Harlem in the 1920s was like nowhere else on Earth. During World War I (1914-18), a mass movement called the Great Migration began bringing African-Americans by the tens of thousands from the rural South to Northern cities. In New York, most of them made their way to upper Manhattan, where the city's local blacks were moving to take advantage of plentiful apartments.“** The article also taught me facts to support the idea that Harlem was a haven for blacks escaping the South. For example, **by July 1923, an estimated 150,000 were living in Harlem and the area had gone from being 10% black in 1910 to 70% black in 1930**. One of the lines from the article that jumped out at me was that “**the Harlem Renaissance was the beginning of a great transformation. For African-Americans, it was a time when black pride was a new, thrilling, sensation-and was even the rebirth of a people**.”

The articles I read about Langston Hughes taught me about his personal story, as well as educated me about what he wrote and why. I learned that he **“initially gained attention with his ability to mix popular culture and radical politics**” which helped me understand that he used his poetry as a way to comment on how the black population was being treated. His influence can be seen when he is referred to as **the “Shakespeare of Harlem” and is credited with being “one of the most acclaimed writers of the radical left**.” The article on Maya Angelou taught me about the influence she has had on the world of literature. She “**won the National Book Award, a Pulitzer Prize, an Emmy, and was invited to read her work at the inauguration of President Bill Clinton in 1993. She was also awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom by President Barack Obama in 2011**.” Her work, and the work of Langston Hughes, got people, INCLUDING ME, thinking and talking about the way the African-American people have been treated in the past, how they are still treated differently, and how our society can become free of racism.