

Country Research Project

During the second semester, you will be researching and putting together a project on a specific country from one of the following regions: **Latin America**, the **Middle East**, **Asia**, or **Africa**. The project will be based on five major themes: Physical Geography, Revolution, Economic Development, Culture/ Nationalism, and Conflict. **The bulk of the project MUST focus on the 20th and 21st centuries.**

From the list of tasks, some will be required (**) and others you will be able to choose from, you are expected to complete 250 points. The format of the project may be a magazine, video, travel brochure, website, or whatever creative format you think of. **ALL QUESTIONS ARE EXPECTED TO BE ANSWERED IN WELL-WRITTEN ORGANIZED PARAGRAPHS.** Use the following parameters as a guideline:

10-15 point task = 1-2 paragraphs

20-25 point task = 3-4 paragraphs

You will need a Table of Contents that lists the topics and items that you have chosen (see example below).

You will be keeping bibliographic information for all sources that you use during the course of your research, including internet sources. Make sure you keep careful records of your references and sources of information. A final bibliography is to be turned in with your project on the final due date.

You will be given TWO library work days to aid in your research.

To help guide your research you are required to turn in a rough draft, which will include:

- 1) an outline for your project
- 2) a list of sources (3 minimum)
- 3) evidence of research – notes, note cards, internet readings, copies of readings.

Check due dates for when your rough and final drafts are due.

On your final due date your completed project will presented to the class in a 5-minute presentation. See the presentation outline for specifics.

Grading

I. Tasks	250	III. Bibliography	10
II Overall presentation		IV. Rough Draft	25
a. Table of Contents	10	V. Oral Presentation	20
b. Appearance and Organization	25		
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		TOTAL	340

Due Dates (these have not been yet decided)

Latin America: rough draft:

final draft:

Africa: rough draft:

final draft:

Middle East: rough draft:

final draft:

Asia: rough draft:

final draft:

Sample Table of Contents

Table of Contents (sample)

<u>Task</u>	<u>Points</u>	<u>Page</u>
I. Physical Geography		
A. Maps	20	1-2
II. Revolution		
A. Timeline	20	3
B. Revolutionary Event	25	4-5

Tasks	Points
I. <u>Physical Geography</u>	
**A. Make maps of your country which show the: physical features (mountains, rivers, plateaus, etc.) bordering nations and bodies of water names and locations major cities	20
B. Research natural disasters in your country. What is likely to occur? What is a recent example and what were the results of it?	10
C. Make a population density map. Explain why population and cities are located where they are. Does the country have population problems? Explain.	15
D. Make a graph that illustrates any of the information shown on the maps in "A". (You may do this one up to 3 times).	5 each
E. Based on the physical geography, what would be the main industries of your country? Justify.	15
II. <u>Revolution</u>	
**A. Make a timeline showing at least 10 major historical events in the 20 TH CENTURY of your country with a brief explanation for each.	20
**B. Pick a specific revolutionary event in your country's history to detail. Explain why you have picked it and how it fits into the history of your country in general.	25
C. Describe the current style of government in your country. What are some similarities and differences you observe between it and the United States?	20
D. What are the most important leadership roles in the government of the country? Who are the people who currently fill them? Pick one and write a brief biography.	20
E. What is the participation of women OR minorities in your country's Government?	15
F. Describe a current crisis in your country. What do you think the final outcome will be?	20
G. Research the life of a REVOLUTIONARY historical figure of the Country and report on his or her contributions to it. (You can do this one twice).	20

III. Economic Development

- **A.** Pick at least three statistics that show the standard of living in the country and explain the significance of them. Suggested statistics are per capita income, infant mortality rate, literacy rate, life expectancy, people per doctor, etc. 20
- **B.** On a scale of 1-10, rank the country's level of industrialization and explain your ranking. Be specific. 15
- C.** Make a chart showing the occupations of the country and the percentages of the population that do these. 10
- D.** Make a map showing the major infrastructure of the country. 10
- E.** Make a chart that shows the trade partners of your country and one that shows major imports and exports. Write a summary of the impact of trade on your country. 20
- F.** Make a map showing the major industries of the country. 10

IV. Culture and Nationalism

- **A.** What minority groups live in your country and what percentage of the population do they represent? (This could be in chart format.) What is their history there? (treatment, origination, etc.) 20
- **B.** Make a collage that expresses the key values and beliefs of the people in the country and write a paragraph to explain. 20
- C.** What are the major religions in the country? (This can be a chart.) Pick what seems to be the most significant and describe it and its history there. 20
- D.** What are some special customs that might be observed? How do they seem to fit into the values of the country? 15
- E.** Interview someone who has lived in your country or who has extensive experiences with that country. Write up their description of life there. 25
- F.** Describe any special celebrations that the people of the country participate in. What is the background? What would take place as part of the celebration. 20
- G.** Pick an artist of the country and describe his or her role in the country and their contribution to the arts. 15

V. Conflict

- **A.** Research your country's position in the United Nations. How important is their role? Describe some of the international issues that are important to your country and region. Possible issues include: banned weapons, famine, human rights, land mines, nuclear testing, terrorism and war crimes. 25
- B.** Are there any conflicts in the country over religion, ethnicity or language? What are the roots of the problem? What might be the final outcome? If there are none, why do you think this is? 20
- C.** How would you describe the relations between the country and its neighbors? Come up with a metaphor and then explain it. 20
- D.** Do the same as "C" for its relations with the world. 20
- E.** Explain how the physical geography of your country may have influenced its relations with its neighbors and the world. 15
- F.** What country has had the most influence on your country? Explain. 15