

# Research Rubric for Students

What Judges Look For in Your RESEARCH	Great	Good	Ok	Needs Improvement
<p><b>Primary and secondary sources are reliable.</b></p>	<p>The authors of your secondary sources are known and have researched their topics well. Online sources are from collections at archives, historical societies, libraries, museums, government agencies, or universities. You found a live person to interview that either lived through your topic or was an expert on your topic.</p>	<p>Most of your sources came from known, reliable authors and most online sources were from historical societies, archives, libraries, museums, government agencies, or universities.</p>	<p>Some of your sources came from reliable places but many did not.</p>	<p>You only used online sources and some of them were posted online by people that had no background in history. You relied heavily on Wikipedia</p>
<p><b>You cross checked your sources of research.</b></p>	<p>You double checked all of your sources of information with another source.</p>	<p>You double checked most of your sources of information with another source.</p>	<p>You questioned the accuracy of some sources but did not double check many of them.</p>	<p>You believed that every source was factual and did not double check anything.</p>
<p><b>You show how your topic impacted and was impacted by the social, cultural, political and economics of the time period.</b></p>	<p>You looked up the terms: “social history”, “cultural history”, political history”, and economic history”. You thought about and included in your final product how these are related to your specific topic.</p>	<p>You were able show that your topic impacted these areas, but did not show how your topic was impacted by them, or vice-versa. You may not have fully understood what these terms meant.</p>	<p>You thought somewhat about how you topic impacted these areas and vice-versa. You had little understanding of these terms.</p>	<p>You didn’t think about how your topic impacted these areas and vice-versa. You did not understand these terms.</p>
<p><b>You thought about the topic A LOT and in a variety of ways.</b></p>	<p>You started on your entry early and have spent much time developing it. You have formed an opinion about your topic but also understand the opinion of others. You can easily talk about your topic with judges and classmates because you live and breathe it!</p>	<p>You spent a good amount of time developing your entry. You have formed an opinion about your topic and somewhat understand the opinion of others. You can easily talk about your topic with judges and classmates.</p>	<p>You could have spent a little more time with your entry. You have somewhat formed an opinion on your topic, but you don’t know about the opinions of others. You are okay talking about your topic with judges and classmates.</p>	<p>You did your entry last minute. You don’t really understand the topic. You don’t feel comfortable talking about it with judges or classmates.</p>

<b>Develops and defends a historical interpretation.</b>	You developed and defended a strong point of view. This thesis is clear and easily recognized by your audience. Your research and writing supports the thesis.	You developed and defended a good thesis and it is easily recognized by your audience. Some of your information may not have related to the thesis.	You developed a thesis, but it isn't easily recognized by your audience and you included information that does not relate to the thesis.	You did not develop a clear argument or point of view about your topic.
<b>Uses a variety of sources.</b>	You created your entry from sources you found in a wide variety of places such as libraries, archives, museums, and online. You used a wide variety of sources such as books, letters, oral histories, videos, photographs, memoirs, and diaries.	You created your entry from sources you found in a variety of places. You used a good variety of sources such as books, letters, oral histories, videos, photographs, memoirs, and diaries.	You relied on just a few locations for sources. You used just a few varieties of sources.	You relied almost entirely on one location for sources. You used a very limited variety of sources.
<b>Makes use of primary sources.</b>	You used a large number of primary sources, making your research very original.	You used a good number of primary sources.	You used some primary sources, but relied mostly on secondary sources.	You didn't understand the difference between primary and secondary sources.
<b>Examines differing viewpoints on your topic.</b>	You acknowledged and discussed several other viewpoints on your topic that may not agree with your own.	You acknowledged and discussed another viewpoint on your topic that may not agree with your own.	You looked at other viewpoints but it is not clear to the audience that you did so.	You did not research or show other viewpoints on your topic.
<b>Clearly relates to theme.</b>	Your topic clearly relates to the theme and the theme is included throughout your entire entry.	Your topic relates to the theme and is included as part of your entry.	Your topic relates to the theme, but you have not shown this relation clearly to the audience.	You have not tried to relate the theme to your project.
<b>Demonstrates significance of topic in history and draws conclusions.</b>	Your entry talks about why your topic was significant history and clearly explains what impact the topic has had on the world in the years following.	Your entry shows the significance of your topic but could go further.	Your entry is somewhat convincing at demonstrating why your topic is significant in history.	Your entry has information about the topic but does not show why it was important in history or what changes took place because of it.

