



Lincoln Assassination Research Paper

Major Due Dates:

Topic and Subtopics: January 23, 2015

Rough Draft of Introduction: February 23, 2015

Rough Draft of Research Paper: February 27, 2015

Editing Coversheet: March 6, 2015

Final Draft of Research Paper: March 12, 2015

The research paper is a three to four page project covering a selected topic surrounding the assassination of Abraham Lincoln. Students will continue to refine the research skills learned during sixth and seventh grade as well as learn the MLA (Modern Language Association) format for documenting a research paper.

- Topics/subtopics must be approved by Mr. McIntire by January 23, 2015.
- A minimum of five sources using at least three different formats will be required for full credit. Less in either area will result in a deduction of points. Some of the most commonly used formats are:
 - KLA database (site found using your Kansas Library Card and the KLC website)
 - Print Reference Book (i.e. encyclopedia, almanac, ...)
 - Print Book
 - Accepted Internet website
 - Academic Journal
- Students must incorporate in-text citations in their paper. The in-text citation tells the reader where you found the information. They can then go to your bibliography to find the full citation for that source.

Deadlines must be met! A deduction of points will be taken for each step completed after deadline.

- Papers must not be less than three pages nor longer than four pages, double-spaced. A deduction of points will be taken for papers either too short or too long.
- Papers must be formatted according to MLA instructions.
- MLA formatting instructions will be handed out prior to the start of the writing process.

500 Points will be awarded as follows:

- Working Thesis statements and subtopics approved (by January 23, 2015): 20 points
- Note card check (January 29, 2015): 20 points
- Note card check (February 5, 2015): 20 points



- Note card check (February 12, 2015): 20 points
- Sort and Order note cards (February 13, 2015): 20 points
- Rough draft of introduction and outline (February 23, 2015): 20 points
- Rough draft of research paper (February 27, 2015): 25 points
- Rough draft editing coversheet (March 6, 2015): 80 points
- Final draft of the research paper (March 12, 2015): 250 points
- Note cards turned in (March 12, 2015): 25 points

Grading notes:

- Grades will be entered for each assignment and not as a total at the end of the project.
- All assignments must be turned in according to the guidelines outlined in the student handbook.
- **This project is considered a long term project and so all assignments are ineligible for “late assignment” adjustments.**
- We will be spending nine to twelve class periods a week over the course of three weeks in March taking notes. The roughly nine hours of note taking offered should be sufficient for this paper. Because of the schedule, no more time can be allotted so please use your time efficiently.
- You will be required to turn in up to ten ungraded note cards for each week’s note card check. The grading of these note cards should give you ample feedback on how well your note taking is going. If a suggestion is made on one note card or bib card, check your other cards and correct them as well. It will help you in the long run.
- Please note that the typing of the rough and final draft of the paper will be done outside of class. It is impossible to give more than a general suggested timeframe since each student writes at a different pace. If you know that it takes you a lot of time to write your first draft, please plan for that. Most students need between 3 and 5 hours over the course of several days to craft their rough draft.
- The introduction, outline and rough draft will be submitted typed. **NO EXCEPTIONS!**
- There will be a 25 point deduction for each day your final draft is late. Late papers will only be accepted with a parent’s signature.
- In order to adequately assess the research papers, Mr. McIntire asks for a three to four weeks to grade them. Students in the past have commented that the in-depth feedback offered has been extremely helpful. It takes, on average, at least one hour per paper to grade. The goal will be to have the papers back in the student’s hands during the first full week in May.



Name: _____

Research Checklist

Topic: (due by January 23, 2015)

Subtopics (due by January 23, 2015)

The subtopic is a logical way of breaking up the information you are presenting. If you were researching the assassination of Lincoln as a whole, you could divide it based on Booth's plan, how the plan worked and what happened after the plan. Your topic will be more in depth but designed so that it can be divided into three subtopics. By have a working set of subtopics at the start, you know what information should be in your paper, and, what doesn't. If it doesn't fit in a subtopic, it doesn't fit in the paper. Three subtopics for a paper this size should be fine.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Sources

- A. Total Number of sources: _____ (you must have a minimum of four sources)
- B. Type of sources (you must have at least three formats)
- KLA database (required)
 - Print Book (required)
 - Accepted internet website (required)
 - Print Reference Book (optional)
 - Other type of format (optional)

Note taking-Students are required to turn in up to ten note cards each week for grading. When note cards come back with corrections, be sure and correct all note cards accordingly.



_____ Note card check (January 29, 2015)

_____ Note card check (February 5, 2015)

_____ Note card check (February 12, 2015)

Write rough draft

A. Rough draft of introduction

_____ Rough draft of introduction and outline due February 23, 2015

B. Rough draft of paper

_____ Rough draft of paper is due February 27, 2015

C. Editing Coversheet

_____ Editing Coversheet is due March 6, 2015

Final Draft

A. Final draft due March 12, 2015

_____ Final Paper

_____ Final Bibliography

_____ Final Outline

_____ All note cards and bib cards