

A Christmas Carol Research Presentation Assignment

Using the novel as a guide, I want you to discover a topic that you believe you might find interesting (a problem to investigate). Your topic must be something that poses a problem that needs to be solved. On a piece of paper, write down the topic and what interests you about it. I must approve your topic before you can continue.

For example: *Are Want and Ignorance still as prevalent today as they were in Dickens' time?*

After your topic has been approved, come up with a list of 20 questions (minimum) you have about your topic. Your list should include questions that are more than superficial, questions that challenge you to discover something new. Don't worry if you only have five or six questions at the beginning, you will come up with more questions as you delve into your topic. Use this paper as a notetaking page as you explore possible questions you might have. You will be turning this in (with all of your questions on it) at the end, so don't lose this. Sloppy is ok here.

On your blue index cards, neatly write out each of your 20 question. Using reputable websites, books from the library, interviews, etc., seek to answer each question you have on the back of your cards. Don't be afraid to use more than one source to come up with the best answer to your question. Make sure to cite your sources so you know where you got your information from. The web address or your own personal notes about sources on your card is ok, but you will need to create a proper works cited page that will list each source you use in your presentation.

Organize your questions and answers into a logically flowing format. Using only your index cards, you will be required to present your research topic to the class. This does not mean that you read us your questions and answers, but that you present your findings. What was it you originally intended to discover and what did you find out about your topic? Make your presentation interesting and hold our attention with what you have to say. You do not need a formal written speech for this assignment; however, you must be prepared to not only present your information to your audience, but be able to answer questions that your audience may have as well. You may use any visual medium you desire to demonstrate to us your findings, or you may use no visual medium at all if you believe you're a captivating enough speaker (the rubric is set up for slideshow, but can be adjusted to meet your speaking needs).

You will receive grades for

- daily participation
- your questions list
- your blue index cards
- your presentation

Research Presentation Rubric

Name _____

Research is becoming more important in education as evidence is accumulating that clear, inquiry-based learning, scholarship, and creative accomplishments can and do foster effective, high levels of student learning. This curricular innovation includes identifying a concrete investigative problem, carrying out the project, and sharing findings with peers. The following standards describe effective presentations.

Standards	5 - 4 Exemplary	3 - 2 Satisfactory	1-0 Unacceptable	Score	Weight	Total Score
Organization	Has a clear opening statement that catches audience's interest; maintains focus throughout; summarizes main points	Has opening statement relevant to topic and gives outline of speech; is mostly organized; provides adequate "road map" for the listener	Has no opening statement or has an irrelevant statement; gives listener no focus or outline of the presentation		X 2	
Content	Demonstrates substance and depth; is comprehensive; shows mastery of material	Covers topic; uses appropriate sources; is objective	Does not give adequate coverage of topic; lacks sources		X 2	
Quality of conclusion	Delivers a conclusion that is well documented and persuasive	Summarizes presentation's main points; draws conclusions based upon these points	Has missing or poor conclusion; is not tied to analysis; does not summarize points that support the conclusion		X 2	
Delivery	Has natural delivery; modulates voice; is articulate; projects enthusiasm, interest, and confidence; uses body language effectively	Has appropriate pace; has no distracting mannerisms; is easily understood;	Is often hard to understand; has voice that is too soft or too loud; has a pace that is too quick or too slow; demonstrates one or more distracting mannerisms		X 1.5	
Use of media	Uses slides effortlessly to enhance presentation; has an effective presentation without media	Looks at slides to keep on track; uses an appropriate number of slides	Relies heavily on slides and notes; makes little eye contact; uses slides with too much text		X 1.5	
Response to Questions	Demonstrates full knowledge of topic; explains and elaborates on all questions	Shows ease in answering questions but does not elaborate	Demonstrates little grasp of information; has undeveloped or unclear answers to questions		X 1	

Reviewer _____

Grand Total _____