

American Icon Research Paper **Due Monday, April 2**

Throughout U.S. history there have been people in a wide variety of fields who contributed to and shaped the nation we are today. For this research paper, you will research an American icon and write a paper that reveals their origins, their passions, and their lasting impact on the U.S. and the world.

Research

We will spend three class periods in the library as follows:

Wednesday, March 7th: Lab A

Thursday, March 8st: Lab A

Friday, March 9nd: West Wing

During our time in the library you will:

Learn about online and print sources that will be useful for your research

Learn how to use Noodletools to create a Works Cited page

Learn how to create in-text citations

Learn how to use turnitin.com to check for plagiarism

Research Paper Requirements

-between 5 and 6 pages long (not including Works Cited page)

-typed in 12 pt Times New Roman font and double spaced

-a correctly formatted Works Cited page

-in-text citations that cite sources for all information from your sources

-minimum of four sources—two online, two print

-submitted to turnitin.com at least two days before the due date

(note: the similarity report must be checked and corrections made and resubmitted to turnitin.com before printing a final copy)

Choosing your subject

You have been provided with a list of Americans. Look over the list and do some preliminary research to see who might interest you the most. Choose up to five people, and number them on your list 1 through 5, where number 1 is your top choice and number 5 is your last choice. Turn in your choices on Tuesday, March 6th. I will let you know to which person you have been assigned by Wednesday March 7th.

American Icon Research Paper Outline

Your name: _____

- I. Introduction **up to 10 points**
 - A. A summary of this person’s accomplishments
 - B. Thesis “_____ was an important figure in American History because....”
- II. Early life/Childhood **up to 20 points**
 - A. Birth
 - 1. When?
 - 2. Where?
 - 3. Parents
 - B. Education
 - C. Significant events that impacted the person they would become
- III. Beginning of career/impact on the world **up to 20 points**
 - A. Who influenced the person to become who they were?
 - B. What started their career?
 - 1. Detail when they first entered the field they were famous for
 - 2. Explain any lessons they may have learned from that first event
 - C. What did they have to overcome to become who they were?
- IV. Significant accomplishments **up to 30 points**
 - A. What did the person do to become famous?
 - B. Detail several events or accomplishments (provide specific events, dates, actions)
 - C. Highlight any pitfalls or problems
 - D. How is America or the world different because they lived?
 - E. Detail how their field (war, entertainment, politics, etc) changed because they lived
- V. Conclusion **up to 10 points**
 - A. What made this person “great”
 - B. Restate thesis

American Icon Research Paper Rubric

Introduction	<u>/10 points</u>
Early life/Childhood	<u>/20 points</u>
Beginning of career	<u>/20 points</u>
Significant accomplishments/impact on the world	<u>/30 points</u>
Conclusion	<u>/10 points</u>
Mechanics (grammar, punctuation, spelling, citations, font, spacing)	<u>/10 points</u>
Total Grade	<u>/100 points</u>