

So what do I have to do to finish my.... *Documentary*

First things first...you need an Annotated Bibliography!

NHD Rule 15: An annotated bibliography is required for all categories. It should contain all sources that provided usable information or new perspectives in preparing your entry. You will look at many more sources than you actually use. You should list only those sources that contributed to the development of your entry. Sources of visual materials and oral interviews must be included. The annotations for each source must explain how you used the source and how it helped you understand your topic. Annotations of websites should include a description of who sponsors the site.

NHD Rule 16: You are required to separate your bibliography into Primary and Secondary sources. SOME SOURCES may be considered as either primary or secondary. USE YOUR ANNOTATIONS TO EXPLAIN your reasoning for classifying any sources that are not clearly primary or secondary. (DON'T put it in both places...choose one and explain why in your annotation).

NHD Rule 17: Follow MLA Style

NHD Rule 18: You must give credit to all sources used in your entry. Failure to credit sources is plagiarism and will result in disqualification.

MORE DETAILS INCLUDING SAMPLE BIBLIOGRAPHIES ON THE SALK HISTORY DAY WEBPAGE TO HELP YOU OUT!!!

A few IMPORTANT rules to keep in mind!

NHD Rule: Documentaries may not exceed 10 minutes.

NHD Rule: You must only announce the title of your presentation and name. ALL narration must be pre-recorded and part of the documentary.

NHD Rule: You are responsible for running all equipment. The judges are not allowed to click or hit play

NHD Rule: All entries must be student-produced. You must operate all equipment. You must provide the narration, voice-over, and dramatization. Only students in your group can participate in the production or appear on camera.

NHD Rule: Your entry must be an original production. You can use professional photographs, film, slides, recorded music, etc in your presentation. You must integrate such items into your presentation and give proper credit within the presentation and in your annotated bibliography. You must operate all editing equipment used in the production of your presentation.

NHD Rule: At the end of the documentary you should provide a general list of credits for all sources. This is meant to be a brief list and not full citations. All sources MUST be in your A.B.

COMMON ISSUES WITH DOCUMENTARIES

- Music too loud. Images too blurry.
- Titles absent or unreadable
- Text on screen while speaking (unless subtitles)
- Images don't match script
- Too much flair!
- Using clip art or stock images

Stepping into a Rough Draft!!!

Step One: Go through your notes, think about your topic. Look at your thesis statement. How are you going to show what happened and how it left an impact/change.

Step Two: Write a tentative script/outline using a storyboard (see handout). Use the rough outline in this guide too!

Step Three: Locate visuals (photos/video) to go with your script. Decide on location shots and interviews.

Step Four: Make sure you have the software you need (iMovie, Windows Movie Maker, etc.) NO POWERPOINT!

Step Five: Using your script, put the visuals together. Where there are gaps, fix them so that what you say matches what's on the screen. Remember, "Say cow, see cow."

Step Six: Record script.

Step Seven: Figure out other audio effects like music.

Step Eight: Check that you have followed all the History Day rules!

DON'T FORGET A TITLE PAGE!!!

A Title Page is boring. It has the Title of your Documentary at the top. On the bottom is has your name, Junior Division and Category (documentary).

CHECK IT OUT

TITLE

STUDENT NAME
JUNIOR DIVISION
DOCUMENTARY

What's a storyboard?

A storyboard is a visual display of a script divided into segments, where each segment is represented by an appropriate image (slides, video clips, etc.) for that segment. This technique is used by people involved in media production to help them decide which pictures will best suit the script. It is important because it allows you to see which visuals fit best, which still need to be made, what songs need to be recorded, etc. You should create a storyboard **after** you have completed your research and written a script. **DOWNLOAD YOUR OWN STORYBOARD ON THE SALK HISTORY DAY WEBSITE**

You can create a storyboard by using index cards or by drawing boxes on a piece of paper. Each card or box represents one image and the text or narration that goes with that image. You may also include background music or sounds that need to be recorded. You should rough sketch visual ideas on the upper portion of the card or box and place the part of the script that goes with that image on the lower part. Each segment should be numbered to make certain that it remains in proper sequence. You can attach the cards to a board or piece of paper to look at the entire flow of the presentation and determine what changes need to be made.

| Narration/Audio | Visual (sketch or describe) | Notes |
|-----------------|--------------------------------|-------|
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| | | |
| | | |
| | | |

How do I organize my documentary?

It needs to have a flow, that's for sure. While there are many different ways to go about telling the story of your thesis statement, here's the best way to go about it!

A basic script outline

- I. Title/Opening—10 seconds
- II. Introduction/Thesis—60 seconds
- III. Background/Build-up—2:30 minutes
- IV. Heart of the Topic—2:40 minutes
- V. Short & Long Term—2:30 minutes
- VI. Conclusion—60 seconds
- VII. Credits—10 seconds

WRITE YOUR SCRIPT & STORYBOARD BEFORE YOU CREATE THE DOCUMENTARY!

RECORD NARRATION FIRST!

MAKE SURE YOU HAVE ENOUGH VISUALS

KEEP IT SIMPLE

SAY COW, SEE COW

How does the judging process go?

Step One: Go to the judging room at the allotted time with everything you need (DVD or laptop, two copies of title page/process paper/annotated bibliography stapled together).

Step Two: When the judges call you into the room greet them and get set up. Hand them the packet and get the documentary ready.

Step Three: When you are ready and they tell you to begin, press play and watch along with the judges.

Step Four: When you are done, stop the video and answer their questions saying as MUCH as you know. Never say "I don't know." You can always say, "I didn't come across that in my research." Don't forget to smile. Be yourself. Share ALL that you've researched.

Step Five: Pack up your stuff and THANK the judges. Be happy with yourself and PROUD!

*****TONS OF INFORMATION, HELPFUL HINTS AN EXAMPLES ON THE SALK HISTORY DAY WEBSITE*****

Questions to ask yourself to improve your documentary!

- Can others hear your voice clearly?
- Do you use multiple transitions or special effects TOO MUCH?
- Are all of your images historical?
- Do you use titles to separate the movie into sections, and are they readable?
- Use GOOD images and video...and give credit to where you got them.
- Is there an expert you could interview on camera?
- Do you have enough images to keep the visual pace interesting but not crazy?