

Biography Essay Assignment

One of our focuses in English this term is informational writing. Your assignment is to write a four page biography about someone. Your task is to choose one person to research, but here's the catch: no one in the class can have the same person as you. My suggestion is to pick someone who is very well known so that it's easy to find sources for this. Pick someone that you're interested in learning more about or someone that you see as a role model.

This is a research paper, so be prepared to find valid sources from the internet or the library (or even Mrs. Mosdell's library). You will need at least eight sources, cited correctly.

Please use your time in class wisely as we work on this project. We will be doing a series of small assignments that will add up to a larger assignment. Please don't lose your work; this will only set you back and make it harder for you to keep up! Please use your time wisely each day, as we will have limited time in the computer labs, and a lot of work to do. Whatever isn't finished in class, will need to be completed after school or during study hall. I am willing to push due dates back if you're all consistently working and making progress. However, if you are wasting time, you will need to complete parts of the assignments at home and I will not give additional time.

Requirements

1. You must have at least 8 sources.
2. You must have at least four full pages (not three and a half on the fourth page).
3. You must have a works cited (this **does not** count as a fourth page). Citations should be in MLA format (we'll go over this in class).
4. Your essay should be 12 point Times New Roman font. It should also be double spaced and in MLA format (we'll go over this in class).
5. You must present in front of the class. This presentation will be part of your grade, but it doesn't have to be complicated. You only need to talk about the major parts of your person's life, and the presentation needs to be no longer than two minutes. You do not need visual aids unless you want to bring a picture of your person for us to visualize.

Schedule

- November 7--Brainstorming People (Due)
- November 9--Person selection approval (Due)
- November 9-28: Research and Annotated Bibliography (Due 11/28)
- November 30-December 4: Introductions (Due 12/4)
- December 6-14: Body Paragraphs (Due 12/14)
- December 18-20: Conclusions
- December 20: ENTIRE ROUGH DRAFT DUE!
- January 4: Peer Review
- January 8: Final Revision Day
- January 10-12: Presentation