** History 8**

**Independent Projects**

**Due Date:** Wednesday November 28, 2012

**Overview:** The main goal of the Independent Project is to help students:

* Gain an understanding of the basic concepts of the historical event at this level, as a foundation for further studies in this discipline;
* Develop the knowledge and values they need to become responsible, active, and informed in the subject matter;
* Develop practical skills (such as critical-thinking, research, and communication skills) that will further their interest in the history field;
* Apply the knowledge and skills they require in history which can be used in other subjects;

*Project*: Due November 28, 2012

Students are to prepare an essay with a minimum of 1500 words (approx. 6 pages). Research a topic from the list below, or choose your own topic with permission from the teacher. Develop a thesis statement that can be defended throughout your project. Your essay should contain historically accurate information. It is important to include a number of examples, charts, figures, or other important information that will defend your research. Footnotes should be included throughout the essay, and a bibliography at the end noting all sources.

Students will be asked to present their research to the class in a presentation of their choice. The idea of the second part of the assignment is to have students defend their research to their peers, be proud of their achievements, and outline their hard work over the past academic year.

**Checklist:**

Choose a topic

Prepare a thesis statement

Select reliable resources for your research

Conduct your research

Complete research

Confirm thesis statement

Complete your first draft

Proofread your project

Complete your project

**Topics:**

1. What was Prince Edward Island’s Absentee Landlord Problem?
2. What were some conflicting Maritime views on joining the British North American Colonies in Confederation?
3. Describe how the map of Canada changed from the beginning of Confederation on July 1, 1867 to the map of Canada today.
4. Describe what life was like in British North America prior to Confederation
5. What were the factors that drew the British North American colonies together?
6. What were the events that led to Confederation in 1867?
7. Describe Métis culture and lifestyle in Canada.
8. Why was the Red River Resistance significant?
9. How did treaties help secure land for settlement?
10. Describe the significance of building a transcontinental railway.
11. What was important about developing the West and Northern Canada?
12. How did an agricultural economy help Canada’s economic production?
13. How did cities and factories grow in Canada?
14. How did women’s roles change in Canadian history?
15. Describe some of the English-French tensions that have occurred in Canadian history prior to Confederation to our present history.
16. How important is international trade for Canada?
17. What has Canada’s role been in the British Empire?
18. How did Canada become involved, and what role did Canada play in the First World War?

**Evaluation: Confederation Independent Project**

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| **Category** | **Level 4** | **Level 3** | **Level 2** | **Level 1** | **%** |
| **Structure & Organization** | Thesis is clearly stated in introduction, properly developed in the body, and summed up in the conclusion. | Thesis is stated in introduction, developed in the body, and summed up in the conclusion. |  |  | 20 |
| **Command of Material** | Clearly demonstrates knowledge and understanding of concepts and relationships among them. | Demonstrates knowledge and understanding of concepts and relationships among them. |  |  | 20 |
| **Assertions & Support** | Clearly demonstrates effectiveness in reaching logical conclusions based on sound argument. Research is illustrated using a variety of techniques. | Demonstrates effectiveness in reaching logical conclusions based on sound argument. Research is illustrated using a variety of techniques. |  |  | 15 |
| **Writing**  **Style** | Clear, confident and mechanically correct writing style. | Mechanically correct writing style. |  |  | 15 |
| **Footnotes &**  **Bibliography** | All material is properly referenced using footnotes, and a bibliography of all resources is included at the end of the paper. | Most of the material is referenced using footnotes, and a bibliography is included at the end of the paper. |  |  | 10 |
| **Presentation** | Presentation is well organized and all questions are answered correctly. | Presentation is well organized and most questions are answered correctly. |  |  | 20 |