

# Organizing Information with Power Notes

To organize your History Day research information, consider using power notes. This format will not only help you organize your information for your project, but also let you see where you might need more information. Here are some guidelines to follow:

- ~Title is your **Project Title** and **Subtitle**
- ~Power 1 is your **Thesis Statement**
- ~Power 2s are your **Research Questions**
- ~Power 3s are basic **Answers** to your research questions
- ~Power 4s are **Supporting Details** for your answers

The basic format of power notes for your History Day project looks like this:

Project Title:  
Subtitle

1. Thesis Statement:

2. Research Question 1

3. Answer

4. Supporting Details

4. Use as many as you need for Supporting Details

3. Answer

3. Use as many as you need for Answers

2. Research Question 2

2. Use as many as you need for Research Questions

**See sample power notes for a History Day project on the next two pages.**

# **Interstate Highway System: Moving Goods and People in the Fast Lane**

1. **Thesis statement:** World War II concerns about troops and materials movement led to the construction of the interstate highway system in the 1950s. Overcoming this transportation obstacle in transportation history allowed for the fast movement of people and goods throughout the continental U.S., helping the economy to grow. However, it has also contributed to concerns about climate change through the increased use of fossil-fuel dependent vehicles.

2. What is the interstate highway system?

3.

3.

3.

3.

2. When was the system developed? What else was happening during that time? (Historical context)

3.

3.

3.

2. Why was the system developed? What was its inspiration?

3. Concerns about troops and materials movement during  
WW II

3.

- 3.
2. Who developed the system?
  - 3.
  - 3.
  - 3.
2. How did the interstate highway system break a barrier in history?
  - 3.
  - 3.
2. What was the immediate impact of the interstate highway system?
  3. Who was impacted and how?
    4. Faster movement of people
    - 4.
  3. What was impacted and how?
    4. Faster movement of goods
    - 4.
2. How has the interstate highway system changed over time?
 

How has it changed history?

  3. Advantages
    4. Better economy
    4. Improved transportation system
  3. Disadvantages
    4. More fossil-fuel dependent vehicles
    4. More highway fatalities

