

National History Day: Producing a Documentary

Use the following information to help you produce an effective documentary for National History Day.

Rules	Components	Production
<p>1. Time requirements: ~10 minutes maximum length ~Additional 5 minutes to set up and 5 minutes to remove equipment ~Timing begins when the first visual image appears and/or first sound is heard. ~Timing ends when the last visual image or sound concludes.</p> <p>2. Introduction: ~Before showing your documentary, you must announce only the title of your presentation and names of participants. ~Other live narration or comments before or during the presentation are prohibited.</p> <p>3. Student Involvement: ~All entries must be student-produced. ~Presenters must operate all equipment. ~Presenters must provide the narration, voice-overs, and dramatization. ~Only those listed as entrants may participate in the production or appear on camera.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Title slide with project’s main title and subtitle, producers, and division 2. Thesis statement incorporated into introduction of documentary 3. Narration that incorporates references to theme throughout documentary 4. Conclusion with analysis of topic’s impact on history and connection to theme 5. Photographs 6. Video clips (30 seconds or less) 7. Audio clips (30 seconds or less) 8. Timeline 9. Documents 10. Letters 11. Newspaper articles/headlines 12. Maps 13. Quotes 14. Credits: Brief, general list of credits at end of documentary 15. Background music 	<p>1. Save images/clips ~Save all images/clips in a folder before starting your documentary. ~Images should be saved as .jpeg or .jpg. ~You will need lots of images/clips for a 10-minute documentary.</p> <p>2. Create script and story board ~Organize your research using the Tootsie Roll graphic organizer topics. ~ Develop a script and story board for your documentary. ~Remember to incorporate your thesis statement into the introduction. ~Be sure your script incorporates references to the theme throughout the documentary. ~Write a conclusion in which you analyze your topic’s impact on history, change over time, and connection to the theme.</p> <p>3. Produce documentary using iMovie, PowerPoint, or WeVideo: ~Create title slide. ~Import images/clips. ~Add captions. ~Add transitions. ~Record narration. ~Add credits at end. ~Record background music.</p>