

Medieval Topic Research—Outline and Report

Standards

Students will be able to...

2. Identify the connections between the messages of literature and its historical context. C
5. Compare a variety of texts for purpose, structure, content, detail, and effect. C
7. Employ a wide range of strategies as they write and use different writing process elements appropriately to communicate with different audiences for a variety of purposes. C
8. Design an original project based on research by generating ideas and questions, gathering facts, and synthesizing information. C
9. Apply research strategies to prepare a credible research report. C
10. Produce documents of publication quality. C
15. Communicate effectively in a presentation. P

Task

To build your authority on the topic of medieval life in England, you will complete research on a particular topic. You will practice research skills while cooperatively learning and teaching background information about the medieval period. Your report should show evidence of your efforts to unearth new material and reflect your ability to extract what is important and present it to the class in an interesting manner. You should be able to present a version of your report during Medieval Fest!

Requirements:

- A. Oral presentation of five to seven minutes of solid material
- B. Detailed outline of information *turned in 3 days prior to presentation*
- C. Handout to teach the class information *turned in 1 day prior to presentation*—this should not be a copy of your outline but an organized summary of important information (including difficult names and dates) that they should remember
- D. Annotated bibliography *due at the time of the report* including at least 5 sources
- E. Any educational handouts, maps, diagrams, and illustrative material printed or copied that will enhance your presentation

Topics:

- ❖ Power and influence of the church
- ❖ Knights, feudalism, chivalry code
- ❖ Castles
- ❖ Weapons, armor, warfare
- ❖ Torture, crime, and punishment
- ❖ Clothing (male, female, upper and lower classes)
- ❖ Music—vocal and instrumental (have samples!)
- ❖ Drama and theater—miracle, mystery, and morality plays
- ❖ Art
- ❖ Food, table settings, etiquette
- ❖ Agriculture and marketplaces
- ❖ Architecture (other than castles)
- ❖ Diseases, quackery, charms, and superstitions
- ❖ King Arthur
- ❖ Holy Grail stories
- ❖ Information of specific royalty

- ❖ Topic of your choice (BUT CLEAR IT WITH ME FIRST)

Rubrics

Outline

Excellent—5 points

- ✓ Elaborates on at least 3 points related to the topic
- ✓ Balanced organization
- ✓ At least 3 sources cited

Good—4 points

- ✓ Elaborates on at least 3 points related to the topic
- ✓ One or two points might need more exploration
- ✓ At least 3 sources cited

Sufficient—3 points

- ✓ Elaborates on 2 points related to the topic
- ✓ One or two points might need more exploration
- ✓ At least 3 sources cited

You must return to researching—1-2 points

- ✓ Not significant elaboration on 2 points related to the topic
- ✓ One or two points might need more exploration
- ✓ Fewer than 3 sources cited

Report

	Wise	Knowledgeable	No fool	Still in the dark...
Completeness of information	10—Topic is thoroughly and accurately addressed	8—Some missing information and/or inaccurate details	6—Some missing information and inaccurate details	4—Much information missing
Clarity of presentation	10—Clear and organized logically	8—Clear but some illogical organization (“jumping around”)	6—Some unclear explanation and illogical organization (“jumping around”)	4—Consistently unclear and illogical
Handout	10—“Reader-friendly” and aligned with presentation	8—“Reader-friendly” but some information from presentation missing	6—Could be more “reader-friendly” and some information from presentation missing	4—No graphics or organization evident; missing important information from presentation
Creativity	5—Creative, engaging, original	4—Some great ideas but might have been executed better	3—A few examples of creativity noted	2—A few examples of creativity noted; problems with execution
Annotated bibliography	5—At least 3 sources cited correctly; 2-3 sentence explanation for each source	4—At least 3 sources cited with 1-2 minor errors; 2-3 sentence explanation for each source missing essential information	3—At least 3 sources cited with more than 2 errors; 2-3 sentence explanation missing for 1 or more sources	2—Fewer than 3 sources cited; 2-3 sentence explanation missing for 1 or more sources

Total /40