

JUNIOR HIGH FALL SEMESTER PROJECTS

Research Paper

Due September 29, 2009

Presented to Language Arts Teacher

As you are aware, very soon you will have to decide which high school you wish to attend. In order to help you make this very important decision, you will choose three high schools as the subjects of your research paper. Your paper will consist of five paragraphs and must be between three and five pages in length. Your margins will be one inch on all sides. You will use a size 12 font. You will be graded according to the attached rubric.

Your paper should include the history of the three schools you are considering attending. Make sure you discuss whether your school is public, private, or religious. You may wish to speak about some of the special classes or extra curricular activities offered by these schools. Also, who are some of the famous and/or successful alumnus from these schools? What colleges do graduates from these high schools attend?

Paragraph #1 will be your introductory paragraph where you will identify the three high schools you have chosen to research. Paragraphs 2, 3, and 4 will discuss in detail each of the three schools you have researched. Paragraph #5 will be your concluding paragraph.

Each paragraph should contain a topic sentence, supporting detail sentences, examples, and a transition/concluding sentence. Remember to use the “Step Up To Writing” format. You must use at least one graphic such as a pie chart, bar graph, or chart or table. Instruction on how to write a research paper according to MLA guidelines will be conducted in your language arts classes. You will need to pay attention, participate in discussions, ask questions, and take notes.

Essay

Due October 27, 2009

Presented to Language Arts Teacher

You will write a five paragraph essay stating in your thesis statement which high school you have chosen to attend and why. You should discuss three reasons why you chose the high school. Remember that an essay is different than a research paper in that it not only offers facts, but also opinions. You will be taught the “Step Up To Writing” format for writing essays. As in your research paper, you will be graded according to the attached rubric and you will be held to the same formatting specifications as your research paper.

PowerPoint (for grade 6) or iMovie (for grades 7 and 8) Presentation
Due November 24, 2009
Presented to your Computer Teacher

You will create a PowerPoint or iMovie presentation from information you gathered and learned by writing your research paper and essay. You will be provided with specific information and requirements during computer class. You will be graded according to Mrs. Gunter's project rubric and adherence to her schedule.

Creative Writing Piece
Due December 15, 2009
Presented to your Language Arts Teacher

You will create a concrete poem in which you will present feelings and facts, which you gleaned from all of the previous projects. A concrete poem is one in which the shape of the poem suggests its subject. For this poem, you will choose a shape that is symbolic of the high school of your choice. You will be graded on how well you use the main elements of poetry, such as: similes, metaphors, personifications, hyperboles, alliteration, etc. Your poem will be word-processed and you will use an appropriately decorative and colorful background on your 8.5 x 11 paper. All the information you will need to create a concrete poem will be presented during your language arts classes. You will need to pay attention, participate in discussions, and take notes.

JUNIOR HIGH SPRING SEMESTER PROJECTS 2009/2010

Research Paper

Due February 2, 2010

Presented to Language Arts Teacher

For this research paper, you may choose a topic upon which you and your language arts teacher agree.

Your paper will be a five-paragraph paper consisting of three to five pages in length.

You will be graded according to the attached rubric.

You will use the Fall semester guidelines/specifications for your paper.

Since you will be creating an essay from this research paper, it is important that you select a topic, which can be discussed from different points of view.

Essay

Due March 2, 2010

Presented to Language Arts Teacher

You will turn your research paper into a five paragraph, three to five page persuasive essay that will be graded according to the attached rubric.

You will use the Fall semester guidelines/specifications for your essay.

PowerPoint (for Grade 6) or iMovie (for grades 7 and 8)

Due April 12, 2010

Presented to your Computer Teacher

You will create a PowerPoint or iMovie presentation from information you gathered and learned by writing your research paper and essay. Mrs. Gunter will provide you with all necessary instruction and directions for this project. You will be graded according to her rubric and adherence to her schedule.

Creative Writing Piece
Due May 4, 2010
Presented to Language Arts Teacher

You will create “4x4x4” poems by writing 4 poems consisting of 4 stanzas each with 4 lines per stanza.

The subject matter for your poems must be Catholic school and age appropriate.

Make sure you use all of the elements of poetry that you will learn in your language arts classes.

Also, you will be expected to use a decorative and colorful background for your poem.