



HISTORY FAIR SCORING RATIONALE: HIGH SCHOOL PROJECTS

	Superior	Excellent	Good	Fair
Historical Knowledge (30%)	Depth of factual knowledge; focused topic; proficient selection of information; understanding of context & background; facts clearly organized to support thesis	Thorough knowledge; focused topic; relevant facts selected; some context and background apparent; facts organized to support thesis	Some description; topic stated but too general; information used is appropriate and relevant	Limited factual description; only surface knowledge; topic is unfocused; facts reported are not always relevant
Quality of Analysis (30%)	Strong, clear, focused thesis; evidence is fully analyzed to support the argument & conclusions; highly skillful connection of topic to a greater historical context; fully understands the impact and significance	Tells a story of change over time; thesis linked to conclusion; skillful attempt to place project in a larger context; understands the impact	Attempt to tell a story or organize information; some attempt at showing change over time or cause and effect; some attempt to summarize research; all expository	Lacks a storyline or clear line of reasoning; theme is unclear; no real conclusion
Quality of Source Material (20%)	In-depth research of available quality secondary & primary sources; special collections & archives used; Internet used for primary source or journal databases; shows ability to evaluate sources	Numerous & varied primary sources; some quality primary & secondary sources; some analysis of sources; Internet sources are credible & used sparingly	Limited sources; some variety; heavy & unnecessary use of general websites	Sources are few & limited to general reference works and websites
Quality of Presentation (20%)	Compelling, engaging, well-organized; makes the best use of sources & medium; lively writing & well-chosen words; appropriate blend of sources; effective delivery; attention to detail; makes history "come alive"	Organized, creative, interesting; uses the medium well to communicate learning; descriptive narrative; solid writing; attention to detail	Flat, expository presentation; some organization & creativity attempted; narrative is understandable but not substantive; doesn't make the best use of the medium	Little of own thought apparent in the project; disorganized; sloppy