

FRONTIERS IN HISTORY: PEOPLE, PLACES, IDEAS

Choosing a Topic:

- Frontier is the formal border between things (countries; societies; advancements in medicine; basic tool and invention; locations; undeveloped field of study).
- A frontier may (re)organize human life (politically, economically, religiously, socially).

Some ideas about what could be a "Frontier:"

- | | |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. New law - yes! | 10. Law - yes! |
| 2. New country - yes! | 11. Media - yes! |
| 3. Invention - yes! | 12. Art - yes! |
| 4. Civil Rights movement - yes! | 13. Education - yes! |
| 5. War that changes history - yes! | 14. Business - yes! |
| 6. Science - yes! | 15. Politics - yes! |
| 7. Medicine - yes! | 16. Architecture - yes! |
| 8. Transportation - yes! | 17. Sports - yes! |
| 9. Economics - yes! | |

Once you start thinking about possibilities:

1. Which has the best impact? Can you show your topic's long term and short-term impacts?
2. Which one(s) have the greatest impact?
3. Which ones are lesser known?
4. Which ones can you gather the most impressive multiple perspective sources?

Think About What Category You Like Best:

Documentary...*For the film fanatic student*

- If you find a meaningful film clip, a lot of primary source photographs, a unique story worth telling, a lot of quotes from primary sources that you could read in a voice-over, you had a chance to interview an expert or person present during the historical event, or you have significant background with film editing and computer video programs.

Exhibit...*For the artistic student*

- If you find lots of unique facts that speak for themselves, you have found many still images, cartoons, or documents.

Paper...*For the literary student*

- If your topic requires explanation, your thesis is better proved in writing, you found a lot of helpful secondary sources.

Performance...*For the dramatic student*

- If you found a unique story worth telling, your historical topic has a theatrical element like music or dance, or you have a strong theatrical background.

Website...*For the tech savvy student*

- If your research uncovered a lot of tangential information that would be better described in multiple webpages, or you have experience with websites.

Integrating Theme Words

My Topic: _____

CIRCLE THE WORDS THAT RELATE TO YOUR TOPIC

Use these words and concepts in your project, process paper, annotations, research interviews and judges' interviews!

- ✓ Firm position
- ✓ Opposing status quo
- ✓ Demonstrations
- ✓ Fighting against powerful movement
- ✓ Protest
- ✓ Movement
- ✓ Used force
- ✓ Used words
- ✓ Used economic power
- ✓ Inspired others to follow
- ✓ Moved from opposition to this
- ✓ End control
- ✓ Band together
- ✓ Grassroots movement
- ✓ Revival
- ✓ Spotlight
- ✓ Underground
- ✓ Prevent future problems
- ✓ Impact for better
- ✓ Impact for worse
- ✓ Gifted leader
- ✓ Military involvement
- ✓ Political involvement
- ✓ Social involvement
- ✓ Religious influence
- ✓ Resists change
- ✓ Going against conventional wisdom
- ✓ Legacy
- ✓ Rights of people
- ✓ Court cases/precedent
- ✓ Protect liberties
- ✓ Rejected
- ✓ Walk away
- ✓ Immediate change
- ✓ Delayed change
- ✓ Temporary

- ✓ Permanent
- ✓ Failed attempt
- ✓ Willing or unwilling
- ✓ Sparked by literature or art
- ✓ Perspective – one person's frontier is another person's barrier
- ✓ Allowed to happen or planned
- ✓ Accidental
- ✓ Active or passive resistance
- ✓ Intended to allow passage
- ✓ Prevent or hinder movement/action
- ✓ First of something
- ✓ Pick up the momentum of past failed frontier attempt
- ✓ Frontier that changed society
- ✓ A frontier that stopped
- ✓ Created by people or war or nature
- ✓ Physical frontier
- ✓ Unchartered territory
- ✓ Different experience for men vs women
- ✓ Cultural affect
- ✓ Boundary between countries
- ✓ Boundary between societies
- ✓ Caused conflicts
- ✓ Been attempted multiple times
- ✓ Kept people apart
- ✓ Barriers with unintended consequences
- ✓ Conquest
- ✓ Cross cultural exchange
- ✓ Results in adopted practices
- ✓ Every changing border/frontier
- ✓ Undeveloped field of study
- ✓ Limits of knowledge
- ✓ Achievement in an activity
- ✓ Organized human life (politically, economically, religiously, socially)
- ✓ Consequence of achievement
- ✓ Challenged traditional boundaries (race; class; gender)
- ✓ Changed/challenged thought