

## NHD Comment Starters

HISTORICAL QUALITY 60%		Possible Points for Comments or Suggestions for Improvements	Judging Sample Comment Starters
Entry is <b>HISTORICALLY ACCURATE</b> : Provides accurate chronology and summary of historical events.	Written content accuracy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Summarizes historical facts accurately and without bias.</li> <li>•Presents understanding of events in correct chronological order.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•You presented an understanding of events in chronological order, knowing where to start and how to unfold the story.</li> </ul>
	Visual evidence accuracy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Uses correct primary source evidence to support the argument.</li> <li>•Uses evidence in correct historical context to support the argument.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Your use of primary source evidence correctly supports the argument.</li> </ul>
Shows <b>ANALYSIS and INTERPRETATION</b> : Thesis establishes a claim and supporting arguments.	Thesis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Establishes claims on topic, cause and effect, immediate impact, change over time, and overall significance.</li> <li>•Presents original argument providing new insight and perspective of themed topic.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•The stated argument does a good job of identifying the significance to the topic.</li> <li>•Your main ideas of _____ need to be supported by evidence to make a strong argument.</li> </ul>
	Analysis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Supporting argument develop sub-argument for each part of the thesis.</li> <li>•Provides evidence supporting the argument.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Your thesis is well supported by the following sections of your project.</li> </ul>
Places topic in <b>HISTORICAL CONTEXT</b> : Demonstrates understanding of how historical factors influenced topic.	Historical context	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Uses secondary sources to identify key people, events, and ideas of time leading to and surrounding an event.</li> <li>•Determines whether earlier factors caused later ones or simply preceded them.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Your entry makes no reference to the time period in which the topic took place.</li> <li>•Your argument could have been stronger if you included more background information on _____</li> </ul>
	Evaluating causes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Demonstrates understanding of how events influenced the topic.</li> <li>•Explains the past in its own terms, not judging it solely by present-day norms and values.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Clearly demonstrates the historical significance of _____</li> <li>•You do a good job of looking at the topic from the standards of the time and by today's standards.</li> </ul>
<b>SHOWS WIDE RESEARCH</b> in annotated bibliography: Sources separated into primary and secondary sections and annotated.	Source citations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Correctly separates sources into primary and secondary sections.</li> <li>•Correctly in the project and the bibliography.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Check to make sure the sources are correctly separated into primary and secondary.</li> </ul>
	Annotations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Identifies a wide variety of foundational sources used to create the argument.</li> <li>•Explains how each source was used in a concise format.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Review your annotations to focus on _____</li> <li>•Include in your annotation how the each source was used to support the argument being made.</li> </ul>
Uses available <b>PRIMARY SOURCES</b> : Argument made and supported with use of primary sources.	Argument evidence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Makes complete argument and supports through use of primary source evidence.</li> <li>•Supports each analysis statement with multiple sources.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Your evidence does a good job of supporting your argument throughout the project.</li> <li>•I was impressed with your use of (interviews... etc.)</li> </ul>
	Variety of evidence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Uses multiple types of primary sources throughout project</li> <li>•Uses unique primary sources that demonstrate advanced research skills</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Throughout your project, you utilized an excellent range of (visual images, clips, interviews, etc.).</li> </ul>

<p>Research is <b>BALANCED</b> in <b>PRESENTATION</b>: Analyzes and provides multiple perspectives.</p>	<p>Multiple perspectives Analyzing various perspectives</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Provides multiple types of evidence to create the argument.</li> <li>•Presents multiple points of view to support the argument.</li> <li>•Analyzes separate points of view.</li> <li>•Explains the impact of each point of view on the topic.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Did you find evidence of other points of view on the topic?</li> <li>•Additional perspectives would provide balance in the project.</li> <li>•You may want to also consider the other point of view on ____</li> <li>•How did different views impact the topic?</li> </ul>
<p><b>RELATION TO THEME 20%</b></p> <p><b>Possible Points for Comments or Suggestions for Improvements</b></p>			
<p><b>RELATION TO THEME:</b> Clearly relates to and addresses all parts of the theme.</p>	<p>Relation to theme Disciplinary lenses</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Thesis and project clearly address the theme.</li> <li>•Chosen topic presents fresh perspective on topic in relation to theme.</li> <li>•Analyzes topic through multiple disciplinary lenses in relation to theme.</li> <li>•Uses multiple disciplinary lenses that connect across the theme.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•I could clearly see the use of this year's theme.</li> <li>•Your topic takes a unique look at the topic.</li> <li>•What are the main points you are trying to make about your topic in relation to the theme?</li> </ul>
<p><b>DRAWS CONCLUSIONS:</b> Demonstrates current <b>SIGNIFICANCE</b> of topic and draws conclusions.</p>	<p>Change over time Historical significance</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Explains how the topic developed over time and documents that change.</li> <li>•Describes why that change occurred.</li> <li>•Explains how the topic was significant in history and draws an independent conclusion.</li> <li>•Explains the cause and continued impact on the community, nation, or world.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•You also pointed very clearly the impact of _____</li> <li>•I would like a bit more information about the long term impact that happened because of _____</li> <li>•Why is your topic important?</li> <li>•How did your today change a (community, nation, or world) in the long term?</li> </ul>
<p><b>CLARITY OF PRESENTATION 20%</b></p> <p><b>Possible Points for Comments or Suggestions for Improvements</b></p>			
<p><b>WRITTEN OR SPOKEN ARGUMENT:</b> Correct grammar, accurate spelling, articulate ideas.</p>	<p>Argument clarity Argument organization</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Presents a professional product with no spelling or grammatical errors.</li> <li>•Presents clear and concise messages.</li> <li>•Argument organized in a logical and easy-to-follow presentation.</li> <li>•Argument includes clear transitions between the thesis, analysis points, and conclusion.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•The dialog or narration could be said slower to make it clearer to the listener.</li> <li>•The organization of your projects argument was hard to follow.</li> <li>•The addition of transitions would highlight the main points being made in your argument.</li> </ul>
<p><b>PRESENTATION:</b> Project elements present clear messages. Project engages the viewer/reader.</p>	<p>Presentation organization Visual impact</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Arranges and groups items to create a clear argument.</li> <li>•Clearly organizes text and visual evidence to guide a reader through the argument.</li> <li>•Uses a visual theme, layout, and presentation style in a creative way to support an argument.</li> <li>•Uses a variety of sources throughout the exhibit to explain the argument.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•The structure of your project supports the argument being made in your project.</li> <li>•Your project was interesting and well organized to tell the story.</li> <li>•Your projects design highlights the argument of your topic.</li> <li>•The design of your project sometimes distracts for the argument you are trying to make.</li> </ul>