

REACH Draft #3: Written Components

Topic Narrative

Goal: provide a brief **introduction** that informs your viewer about your topic and captures their interest.

Content: do the following in your Topic Narrative:

- 1) **Introduce** topic (explain what it is).
- 2) Explain the **historical context** of your topic and give a few important **details**.
- 3) Explain your **connection** to the topic (and why you chose it).

Length: 12 – 36 sentences. Remember, your narrative can be split up into several sections to be placed around your board.

Captions

Goal: explain the **context** and **meaning** of each of the artifacts and provide additional information about the topic.

Content: include several **specific** details about each artifact (such as dates, places, etc. related to artifact).

Length: at least nine captions; one – three complete sentences per caption.

Bibliography

Goal: give at least **three sources** you used to research your topic (including books, web sites, and people you interviewed).

Format: follow the **proper MLA format**. Examples are available at <http://www.eckstein.seattleschools.org/library/bibliopage.html>

Writing Advice and Style Suggestions

- 1) Write in **present or past tense**, but not future tense. Pick a tense and stay with it, do not shift between tenses.
- 2) Make your connection to your topic clear and **personalize** your writing. You can use “I” or “me”. Be sure to tell **why** you chose your topic. Explain it even if it seems obvious to you.
- 3) Captions should be **complete sentences**, not just fragments as in “A map of Germany”. It would be better to say, “I created this map of Germany to show where my ancestors came from.” Be sure to include **specific details** such as dates, places, and people related to the artifact.
- 4) Keep in mind you will most likely cut up your captions to lay out around your board. Be sure to format the captions with **extra space** around the sentences.
- 5) When you create the final draft of your topic narrative, **do not include a title and heading** since these will already be elsewhere on your board.

Score: based on completion of the requirements listed above; skip lines for all rough drafts (typing draft is recommended, but is not required).

_____ / 10