VIRTUAL JUDGING: WEBSITE CATEGORY

Website Basics

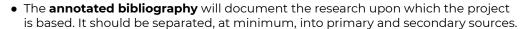
Websites are web-based, multimedia representations of a student's argument and supporting evidence.

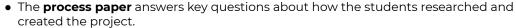


- No more than 1,200 student-composed words. Students can include up to 1,200 student-composed words. Words that students do not write such as quoted material or words within primary sources do not count toward this limit. The navigational structure, menus, and user instructions do not count toward the student-composed word limit.
- **Created using NHDWebCentral.** Students are required to use a standard NHD-provided platform to develop website entries.
- **Up to three minutes media.** Can include up to three minutes of video/audio. Students can divide this up as they wish, as long as the total does not exceed three minutes.
- The evidence should support, not overwhelm, the student's analysis and interpretation. The student's voice should be clear to the viewer.

ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY AND PROCESS PAPER

In addition to the exhibit itself, judges will review the following written documents as part of the evaluation of the website.





- How did you choose your topic and how does it relate to the annual theme?
- o How did you conduct your research?
- o How did you create your project?
- What is your historical argument?
- In what ways is your topic significant in history?



Virtual Contest Websites

- Students were required to use a **History Day-provided website creation program, NHDWebCentral**. This is a new platform. It is <u>significantly harder</u>, and much more like what a professional web designer would use, than the previous platform.
- **Be understanding of technical problems and challenges.** Judges should focus on the historical argument and analysis the student is presenting and not formatting errors, or bells and whistles.
- Judges should assume all projects do not exceed the total size limit of websites.

Website Rules Compliance

Major Rule Violations: Have the potential to give a project an unfair advantage over their competition. Major violations must be taken into consideration when deciding rankings. Consult with History Day staff if your top entries have a major rule violation.

- Missing bibliography
- More than 20 words over student-composed word limit of 1,200
- More than 15 seconds over three minute media time limit
- Failure to use the NHDWebCentral editor to build the site

Minor Rule Violations: Note on the judge sheet, but should not be the focus of a judge's written commentary. Should not influence a project's ranking, unless projects are exceptionally close in quality.

- Missing process paper
- Incorrect citation format, missing annotations, or bibliography not sorted into primary/secondary sources
- Failure to provide credits for images/quotes in website
- Not including correct information on title page or website homepage
- Links appearing within annotated bibliography

How does a rubric-based evaluation work?

Judges assess each project against the **evaluative criteria** (categories on the left) and specific standards for each **level of achievement** (check boxes across the page in the same row). For each evaluative criteria, select the level of achievement best describes the project you are viewing.

- A project's level of achievement will likely vary across different evaluative criteria. All check marks **do not need to be in the same column** down the entire page (e.g. all good, or all superior).
- Scoring a project against a rubric is different from selecting projects to advance in the competition.
 - **Scoring a Project:** How a project scores on the rubric is based on the strength of the specific project against the criteria. Do not adjust the ratings of a project to account for which projects are moving on in a contest.
 - Selecting Winners: The project(s) that advance should generally have higher ratings than those that do not.
 Determining the strongest projects can be more difficult when ratings are about the same and judges should include robust written feedback to help support their decisions..

Historical Quality - 80%

The majority of a judge's evaluation is based on historical quality and is consistent across project categories. This includes: historical argument, wide research, primary sources, historical context, multiple perspectives, historical accuracy, significance in history, and student voice. <u>Judges must review our general judge training</u>, in addition to this category-specific document, for detailed information on the historical quality criteria.

Website Clarity of Presentation

Clarity of Presentation addresses how well the student used the category to present their ideas.

	SUPERIOR	EXCELLENT	GOOD	FAIR	NOT EVIDENT
WRITTEN Material and Visuals	☐ Presents written material that is appropriate to the topic and easily understood	☐ Presents written material that is appropriate to the topic and can be mostly understood	☐ Presents written material that is appropriate to the topic but is difficult to understand	☐ Presents written material that is not appropriate to the topic or not understandable	
	☐ Provides clear, concise, articulate text that does not contain grammatical or mechanical errors	Provides text that contains minor grammatical or mechanical errors	☐ Provides text that contains several grammatical or mechanical errors	☐ Provides text that contains major grammatical or mechanical errors that impede understanding	
	☐ Provides media that enhances the topic (optional)	☐ Provides media that is appropriate to the topic (optional)	☐ Provides media that is somewhat appropriate to the topic (optional)	☐ Provides media that is not appropriate to the topic (optional)	
TECHNICAL	☐ Presents all visual material clearly	☐ Presents most visual material clearly	☐ Presents some visual material clearly	☐ Does not present visual material clearly	
	☐ Structures website through segmentation and orientation	☐ Mostly structures website through segmentation and orientation	☐ Attempts to structure website through segmentation and orientation	☐ Little or no attempt to structure website through segmentation and orientation	
	☐ Selects font, formatting, and color that strongly enhance readability and are highly appropriate to the topic	☐ Selects font, formatting, and color that adequately enhance readability and are appropriate to the topic	☐ Selects font, formatting, and color that begin to enhance readability and are somewhat appropriate to the topic	☐ Font, formatting, and color do not enhance readability or are not appropriate to the topic	
	☐ Makes strong and appropriate use of website elements	☐ Makes good use of website elements	☐ Makes some use of website elements	☐ Does not take advantage of website elements	