

## Process Paper Rough Draft Sheet

Below you will find your paragraph topic starters. Create rough drafts of your paragraphs that will become the body of your process paper. Keep in mind the other components of the process paper include: Title Page and Annotated Bibliography

\*\*\*See the back of this sheet for descriptions and requirements for the Title Page and Annotated Bibliography\*\*\*

### Paragraph 1: Why I chose this topic:

---

---

---

---

---

### Paragraph 2: How I conducted my research:

---

---

---

---

---

### Paragraph 3: How I created and developed my exhibit:

---

---

---

---

---

### Paragraph 4: How my topic relates to the theme:

---

---

---

---

---

# HISTORY DAY

## Process Papers

Students producing entries in the exhibit, media documentary and performance categories\* must also write a **Process Paper**. This paper introduces your topic, explains how you developed your entry, and documents your research. It is important to do a good job on this part of your entry because it is the first thing that people look at when evaluating history day entries. The process paper contains three parts: The title page, a research description, and the annotated bibliography.

\*The research paper category requires a title page and annotated bibliography, but does not include a research description. See the History Day *Contest Rule Book* for complete details.

### Title Page

The title page includes the title of the entry, name(s) of the student(s) who developed the entry, and the age division and category of the entry. Do not include any additional information or illustrations on the title page. It is important to come up with a good title for your entry. A good title will quickly introduce your topic, but it also important to add wording that helps the viewer understand your point of view. It also helps to include some ideas from the theme in your title.

For example, a title for an entry about Clara Ueland could be:

*A Force for Higher Civilization:  
Clara Ueland and the Fight for Women's Voting Rights in Minnesota*

This title explains the topic and also gives a sense of the argument that Clara Ueland and other suffragists used to argue for their right to vote.

### Research Description

The research description is **not** a summary of the topic, but an essay that describes the process of how the students developed the entry. Students are to use 500 words to explain how they selected the topic, conducted the research, and developed the entry. The research description should conclude with a paragraph describing how the topic fit this year's theme and why it is important in history.

### Annotated Bibliography – is not part of the 500 word limit

A **bibliography** is an alphabetized list of the sources used in developing a historical project. An **annotated bibliography** not only lists the sources, but also gives a short description of each source and how you used it in your entry. A History Day bibliography should be separated in to primary and secondary sources. For guidelines on bibliographic style refer to *A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses, and Dissertations* by Kate L. Turabian, or the style guide of the Modern Language Association of America (MLA). –see student planner and media website for Links to National History Day – click on student & process papers for examples