

LESSON: PROJECT ORGANIZATION – NARRATIVE ORGANIZER

Essential Questions: 1. How do I organize all the information? 2. What tools have I already used in the History Day process that can help me get organized?

Objective: Students will be able to organize the notes collected and present the information they deem important for their story.

Grade Level: 6 – 12

Time Needed: 90 minutes

Materials: Worksheet: Narrative Organizer, pencil, draft of working thesis statement

Procedure

Before Class: Choose a thesis statement of issue from a previous lesson to discussion in this activity.

1. Ask students to think back to the discussions you had as a class about historical context and historical significance? Explain that you are now going to take a look at the thesis and how that previews the bigger picture ideas you have been researching. Each idea that you discuss in the thesis will need to be discussed and proven in the project itself.
2. Walk through the introductory thesis together, as a roadmap of the project.
3. Using the **Worksheet: Narrative Organizer**, take apart the thesis and figure out what details belong in each section. *What part of the thesis sets up historical context? What part gets to the heart of the story? Where do you discuss the historical significance and theme connection?*
4. As the students do the same for the working version of their own thesis using a new copy of the **Worksheet: Narrative Organizer**.
5. After filling in the main ideas, ask students to add details that further support the argument. *What other information is needed to support what you are saying?*
6. As the next step the students can use this narrative organizer to begin drafting the text into sentences for their project.

Lesson Extension/Alternative

Check List Alternative: The checklists that students may have completed though this entire process could form the foundation for the **Worksheet: Narrative Organizer**.

Five-Paragraph Essay: Students could write a five-paragraph essay that includes their thesis statement.