

1920's Historical Figure Project



(Prohibition, Flappers, Cats, Inventions.....all that Jazz)

There are many influential people that fill the decade of the 1920's. Your assignment is to sign up for one of these individuals, on the sign up sheet in class, and conduct extensive research on them. Through your research you will need to come to an understanding of what your chosen character was like and what affect they had on the 1920's. You

Will then create a silent film in which you will enact this person!

Research and write a biography of one person from the 1920's. Include:

- 1) Details of your character's life
 - 2) important achievements,
 - 3) discussion about how your character contributed to the life and times of the Twenties,
 - 4) At least one direct quote from your character
- Including intro, conclusion, and **bibliography!**

Your Biography should be two pages long.

Be careful **not to plagiarize** and give credit to each source you use!

Use www.citationmachine.net to create your Bibliography. You should have at least two different sources.

3. The third part of your presentation will be a skit performed with other members from the class that are also characters from the 1920's. You will be randomly placed in groups of no more than 4 characters. You will then come up with a short (2-3 minute) skit that involves all of the characters. In this skit you need to portray the impact that your character had on the 1920's and how they might have felt about the other characters in your group. This skit can and would be great if it involved audience participation, props, humor, etc.

Appendix E: 1920's Characters

PERSON Student Portraying Character

Louis Armstrong
A flapper
Al Capone
Carrie Chapman Catt
Charlie Chaplin
Jack Dempsey
Amelia Earhart
Gertrude Ederle
J. Edgar Hoover
F. Scott Fitzgerald
Henry Ford
Marcus Garvey
Texas Guinan
Warren G. Harding
Ernest Hemingway
Al Jolson
Charles Lindbergh
Edna St. Vincent Millay
Mary Pickford
Knut Rockne
Babe Ruth
Sacco and Vanzetti
John T. Scopes
Bessie Smith
Claudette Colbert
Babyface Nelson
Elliot Ness
Nikola Tesla

**Get ready to
research, dress up
and act!**



PROJECT: Make your own silent movie!



Directions: The purpose of this assignment is to place yourself in the role of you Biography character, as well as filmmaker, during the 1920's, before "talkies" were made.

Requirements:

1) You will write, practice and create a 5-minute silent film with other Biography characters! Your major challenge:

-Create a setting from the 1920's that all of these different characters meet in: a Speakeasy, an assembly line, a jazz club in Harlem, opening night at a movie theater, Lindberg landing from his flight over the Atlantic, etc. BE CREATIVE!!

2) each student will play the character of the person from their Biography report in the film (Pretend these people actually met in real life! What it be like?!)
-you must dress like them, act like them, and behave as they would have behaved

3) It must be completely silent! (If using a video camera turn off the sound recorder on the camera and film in black and white). View some old silent films on Youtube or Google video to get an idea.

4) Your skit must realistically reveal major themes of the 1920's, such as the culture of the "flappers," Prohibition and gangsters, or the slapstick of such comedians as Chaplin. Do not get overly goofy; your skit should be well-planned and performed well, but can be humorous.

5) Find appropriate music from the period (jazz music, for example, to overlay). Bring in costumes and other needed props.

Scoring: Preparation and teamwork: 10 points

Well-planned and acted skit: 10 points

Major themes of the 1920's represented: 10 points

Music, costumes and props: 10 points

Worksheets for Your Skits (Time permitting...)

1920's Character Skit.....

Names of Characters in Skit:

- | | |
|----------|-----------------|
| 1. _____ | Played by _____ |
| 2. _____ | Played by _____ |
| 3. _____ | Played by _____ |
| 4. _____ | Played by _____ |
| 5. _____ | Played by _____ |

What important facts should be portrayed by each character in the skit as far as what they were known for in the 1920's?

Character 1:

Character 2:

Character 3:

Character 4:

Character 5:

What will the setting be for your skit? _____

What will the plot be for your skit?

Teacher Initial up to this Point: _____

SCRIPT:

_____:

_____:

_____:

_____:

_____:

_____:

_____:

_____:

_____:

_____:

List of props needed for skit:

What, if any, audience participation will be used in the skit?

What are each group members responsibilities for the skit as far as what they will bring in, when they will know their lines, etc.?

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

1. **Grading Rubric:**

Time Spent Working on the Project in Class/Library	<u>25 points</u>
Quality of Broadsheets for the Class	<u>40 points</u>
Costume of Character	<u>20 points</u>
Presentation of Character	<u>30 points</u>
Skit	<u>25 points</u>
Extra Credit for Staying in Costume All Day	<u>10 points</u>

Total Points for Project Equals 140.

Project Assigned:

Broadsheet Due Date:

Skit Script Due:

Presentations & Skits Begin:

Project Due: