Christmas Around the World Project

Instructions and Rubrics

Did you ever wonder if other countries know about Christmas or if they celebrate in similar ways? Here is your chance to find out!

For this project, you will research another country where Christmas is a vey important tradition. You will discover how different cultures celebrate the same holiday in their own way. You may even see connections to how you celebrate the holiday!

You will be working with a partner to research and present the Christmas traditions from a specific country. You will pick a country, and you will work together to create a 7 minute slideshow presentation to share with the class! 7 minutes is the maximum amount of time you will be given to present, so plan carefully. Remember to share the effort in order to explore how different cultures can be both similar and different from yours.

For this project, you will also write a short compare and contrast essay about how you and the people in the country you research celebrate Christmas. This part is individual and should be done **on your own.** Your essay should follow the following structure and should be **at least** 1 full page in length. It should be typed, doubled, and in Times New Roman size 12.

Introduction Paragraph

Body Paragraph 1: Compare your researched country and your traditions

Body Paragraph 2: Contrast your research country and your traditions

Conclusion Paragraph

***You will sign up as groups for your presentation date. You MUST email me your presentation the day before you are due to present. You will not be able to reschedule your presentation. Choose your date carefully.***

***Compare and Contrast essays are due on December 16th. NO EXCEPTIONS! LATE WORK WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.***

We will have in-class check-ins to help make sure you are working on the project every week, so there is no excuse for this project to be incomplete.

Here is what you will need to include in your presentation. You can use powerpoint, prezi, or any other presentation form you would like.

1. A brief introduction to your country. Include a map with a marker showing where your country is.)
2. How do people in this country prepare for the holiday(Advent), and on what days do they celebrate?
3. How do they worship on this day? (Connection to faith)
4. What types of foods do they eat on the holiday?
5. How do they celebrate? What types of activities or celebrations do they have?
6. Do they believe in Santa Claus? Describe their version of St. Nicholas. If they do not, what special story is told on this day?
7. Ending slide with the links to all of the resources you used

You can find all of the information you need on this site. Just click on your country’s flag.

<http://www.whychristmas.com/cultures/>

Rubric for Presentation

Introduction with map \_\_\_\_\_2pts

Advent and preparation \_\_\_\_\_\_\_3 pts

Day or days of celebration \_\_\_\_\_1 pts

Worship \_\_\_\_\_\_ 3 pts

Foods \_\_\_\_\_\_\_3 pts

Activities and Celebrations \_\_\_\_\_\_\_3 pts

Santa Claus or special story \_\_\_\_\_\_\_3pts

Ending Slide \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_2pts

Both members speak equally \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_5 points

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_25pts

Rubric for Essay

Typed, MLA, double spaced, 12 font \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_3 points

(This score will be included separate from the essay score.)

Introduction names the country and introduces the compare and contrast topic well. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_5 points

First body paragraph describes similarities between the researched country and the USA (or heritage country) in at least 7 sentences \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_7 points

Second body paragraph shows the differences between the researched country and the USA (or heritage country) in at least 7 sentences \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_7 points

Conclusion paragraph makes final points about the holiday the two countries share / leaves the reader with a final thought \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_5 points

Essay is edited for spelling and grammatical mistakes (minimal to no errors throughout) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_3 points

Essay is written in 1st person \_\_\_\_\_\_\_3 points

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_30 points