**Reality Research Paper**

**The 1920s – The Jazz Age: The Reality of the Era of *The Great Gatsby***

Using the time period of F. Scott Fitzgerald’s *The Great Gatsby* as a guide, select and research an area of interest. With a minimum of 4 sources, become an expert in your field. Everyone in class will have an individual topic. **General subject areas** are:

**A.** History: notable events/incidents in 1920s America (women’s suffrage, rise of Communism, Prohibition, bootlegging, smuggling, organized crime, Chicago Outfit, Scopes Trial, Immigration Act of 1924, aftermath of WWI, National Fascist Party, Black Tuesday, Roaring 20s, Art Deco, flappers, Irish Free State, Presidents: Warren G. Harding, Calvin Coolidge, Herbert Hoover)

**B.** Entertainment: popular diversions of the time period; how people spent their free time; well-known books, magazines, films, & music of the era (The Jazz Age, Warner Brothers, 1st movie soundtrack, record companies*, The Jazz Singer,* George Gershwin, BBC, Cole Porter, Harlem Renaissance)

**C.** Sports: baseball, stadiums, Negro National League, NFL founded, Olympics, Jack Dempsey, 24 Hours at LeMans.

**D**. Economics: the worth of a dollar, the price of items such as food, shelter, clothing, especially in relation to comparable goods & services of today.

**E.** Personalities: remarkable people of the day – their contributions to society and the reasons for their fame or infamy (Babe Ruth, Al Capone, Charles Lindbergh, Benito Mussolini, Marcus Garvey, Ernest Hemingway, Zelda Fitzgerald, Robert Frost, Sigmund Freud, Albert Einstein, Langston Hughes, T.S. Eliot, Charlie Chapman, Louis Armstrong, Pablo Picasso, Salvador Dali, Ty Cobb, Lou Gehrig)

**F**. Everyday Life: the way people dressed, the kind of jobs they held, the amount of education they received, the types of houses in which they lived, the sort of transportation they used, the luxury items of the era.

**G**. Inventions & Inventors: Jacob Schick/electric razor, Clarence Birdseye/frozen food, Robert Goddard/liquid Fueled Rocket, television, movies with sound.

**H.** *The Great Gatsby*: F. Scott Fitzgerald’s life, critical reception of *Gatsby*, Fitzgerald’s other works, etc.

**Research Paper Overview**

A research paper is a carefully planned essay that has been thoroughly investigated and analyzed by the writer.

Research papers are written to share new information or to prove a point. What makes this different from other types of writing is the amount of information gathered and used in the writing. As a researcher, you will be gathering information primarily from Internet sites and Internet Databases, but you may use other sources as well.

Because of the amount of information and time that is involved in writing a research paper, it is best to stay organized and on track using the process listed below:

1. Select a topic. Start with a general topic and then narrow it down to a workable subject.

2. Begin searching for information.

3. Take notes from sources of information (include all bibliographic information with notes).

4. Write a thesis statement.

5. Construct a working outline. Roughly organize ideas and information into a logical order.

6. Write a first draft. This should include an introduction, body paragraphs, a conclusion, and a Works

Cited page. **Include parenthetical documentation within the paper**.

7. Revise and edit. You should have a least one peer revision and one self-revision.

8. Type and format your final copy.

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We will be discussing and working through these steps in class. It is extremely important that you follow all

directions and instructions during class “workshop” time so that you are clear about the expectations for this paper.

Below are the basic guidelines for your research paper:

**Directions for Research Paper**

Using the research you discover,

**a.** Produce a multi-paragraph (5 minimum) paper (600-800 words) that paraphrases the information you find, using correct MLA (Modern Language Association) form.

**b**. Cite all sources used (**4 minimum**). \*\*\*Wikipedia is not considered a creditable source. Reputable sources often end with .edu (educational institution), .gov (objective government sponsored website), and .org (non-profit advocacy group). The **Works Cited page** is the last page of your paper.

**c.** Use a **minimum** of 1 direct quote from your research and a **maximum** of 3 direct quotes. Other information should be paraphrased.

**d.** Correctly use **parenthetical citations** to give credit for the information you used to research and write your paper.

**e.** Type the paper. Be sure to **double-space** and use **12 point** and **Times New Roman** font.

**f.** Give a title to your paper.

**g.** You will NOT use first person in your writing – this is an informational paper, not personal opinion.

**h.** Submit your completed paper to **turnitin.com** and **attach a printed receipt** of submission to your final paper. Papers will not be accepted without this receipt.

**Oral Presentations**:

a. Plan a 3-5 minute talk for the class to share what you have learned. There is no need for additional research; just talk about what you have learned. This will also be your opportunity to include personal opinion.

b. Provide a visual aid (PowerPoint, poster, chart, drawing, etc.) to enhance what you say.

**Due dates (subject to change)**:

Turnitin Registration: 11/19/17

Have your topic approved by me: **11/17/17**

Library dates: **11/14/17 11/15/17**

Article review with notes (min. of 4): **11/27/17**

Thesis Statement Due: **11/27/17**

Outline Due: **11/29/17**

Draft copy of paper (for peer review): **12/6/17**

2nd Draft Complete (edits made): **12/8/17**

Final copy of paper (for teacher review) **printed AND uploaded** to turnitin.com: **12/12/17**

Oral Presentation: \_\_\_\_\_TBD\_\_\_\_\_