

Creating a Documentary

A media documentary reflects your ability to use audiovisual equipment to communicate your topic's significance in history in the same way that professional documentaries work. To produce a documentary you must have access to the equipment and you are responsible for all of the work involved: such as narration, voice-overs, and editing. Judges are looking for historical accuracy not technical wizardry.

Documentaries should not exceed **10-minutes** in length and may include professional photographs, slides, recorded music and film. Only those students who participate in the project may help in production or appear on camera.

Title A _____ _____ _____ Background/Context Title B _____ _____ _____ Antecedents: Events immediately prior to event	Thesis Heart of the Story	Title C _____ _____ _____ Precedents created; immediate effects Title D _____ _____ _____ Conclusions: Significance in History
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Items to be completed/Process:

1. Write the script-Pull your research together into a compelling story. **The script is the most important part**-as it drives the project. Use the 'exhibit' above as a guide for script, what needs to be told within the 'story.'
2. Get the visuals-Find the pictures, video clips, and other visuals that go well with the information in your script.
3. Do a storyboard-Put the script and visuals side-by-side on paper. (See over).
4. Record a narration-Cut up recording into small sections for easy recording. Paragraph by paragraph.
5. Put in the visuals-Say FDR-see FDR. Make sure the visual matches the script.
6. Insert other audio-Music and sound effects bring the video to life. Give serious thought to how the tone of the music matches the tone of the story.
7. Add titles and effects-Opening titles, segments titles, interview subject lines, fades, dissolves.
8. Burn or export-Burn your project onto a DVD or export to a video camera to convert to VHS.

<http://www.nhd.org/Contest.htm>