

4	3	2	1	Multiplier
Parenthetical citations Citations are correct. Each “fact” is cited. Sources are uniformly documented with great care. Lead-ins are present and done correctly.	Some information should be cited, but isn’t. Most sources are accurately documented. Lead-ins are attempted.	Some sources are accurately cited, but there are inconsistencies in usage. Large portions of information in the paper are not cited. Lead-ins not attempted.	Citation format is often incorrect and confusing. Citations appear to show up randomly throughout the paper.	X 2=
Manuscript Format Heading, font, size, header, spacing, and margins are all correct.	Manuscript is correct most of the time. Few errors are present.	Manuscript is only correct some of the time. Many errors are present.	Numerous errors are evident – the student does not appear to have given formatting any thought.	X 2=
Works Cited Page All sources are properly cited in MLA format on the Works Cited page. The title of the page is correct.	Most sources are accurately documented, but a few are not in MLA format. The title of the page is correct.	Sources are listed, but are not in MLA format. The title of the page is misspelled.	MLA format is often incorrect and confusing. Perhaps this student has no CHS Writing Handbook?	X 2=
Use of Research All sources are reputable. Research is smoothly integrated into the text of the paper. There are careful connections between pieces of research in order to support the thesis.	Several reputable sources are used. The research is integrated with the student’s own thoughts, but the inclusion of research seems artificial at times. The use of research supports the thesis.	Some reputable sources are used. The student’s own thoughts are present, but the student does not appear to understand how to use research to support a thesis.	Few reputable sources are used and/or unreliable sources cited or this paper resembles a string of facts.	X 3=

6	5	4	3	2-1	
Ideas Bursting with information, and every point is clear and focused on the topic. Demonstrates a clear & full development of the thesis with accurate & exceptional evidence.	Clear information, knowledgeable and focused writing. Contains fully developed thesis, but is less pointed. Evidence is adequate but not superbly used. Thesis, contained within introduction, is clear.	Informative, yet some details seem to be missing; most points are clear. Evidence may be poorly chosen, repetitious, and/or partially developed. Thesis expresses good judgment, but the essay does not fully cover the topic.	Information is too general, missing some details, and only occasionally grabs attention. May contain major errors in interpretation of the material or the assignment. Paper lacks sufficiently in-depth analyses and supportive evidence.	Some information clear, but difficult to follow; few details. Paper lacks information promised by the thesis (off topic). No serious consideration due to so many obvious errors and misunderstandings.	X 2=
Organization Great beginning, details fit perfectly, there is closure & smooth transition; it flows. Uses unified, fully developed, relevant paragraphs.	Effective sequencing and flow, details fit, has strong beginning and closure. Clear at beginning, but <i>may</i> fall off somewhat. Satisfactory coherence with <i>few</i> weaknesses.	Predictable order, clear, some weakness in present structure, no strong beginning. It is underdeveloped though unified. Coherence and transitions are evident, but weak, with occasional confusion.	Attempts made to organize, order of details is questionable, some transitions work. Flawed, unclear, illogical organization. Coherence is weakened by missing parts.	Difficult to follow, reader has to reread, randomly placed details. No serious consideration due to so many obvious errors and misunderstandings.	X 2=
Sentence Fluency A treat to read out loud! Sounds smooth and interesting. Effective use of variety in length of sentence patterns (simple, compound, complex).	Sentences are mostly varied. Pretty smooth and interesting. Some simple, compound, complex sentences.	Pretty smooth, natural, clear, and mostly easy reading – maybe TOO easy – it still sounds strong. Composed mainly of simple sentences. Sometimes awkward sentence structure.	Sentences need dividing or combining; clumsy to read. Sounds dull. Displays incorrect structure (fragments / run-ons) and/ or sentences that are choppy, awkward.	Clumsy to read and may need to be reread, but still making some sense. Boring, regardless of details. No serious consideration due to so many obvious errors and misunderstandings.	X 2=
Word Choice Very creative, colorful, expressive, vivid, inviting. Vocabulary is precise, concise, correct, & aptly chosen. Language is subtle, yet effective.	Expressive, inviting, some originality. Clear and correct, while perhaps not the perfect choices in vocabulary.	Clear & predictable; <i>some</i> interesting words. Contains a few errors but is essentially clear. Variety in word choice needs improvement.	Attempts made to choose strong words; no stretch of the imagination. Vague or incorrect. Vocabulary and expressions are not mature. Serious problem with repeated vocabulary.	Not very clear, difficult to follow, mostly ineffective. No serious consideration due to so many obvious errors and misunderstandings.	X 2=
Voice Speaking right to the reader with personality, originality, liveliness, and sincerity. Clearly expressive & specific, yet formal and appropriate.	Sense of audience, appropriate expression, engaging. Appropriately formal, but there <i>may</i> be a brief lapse.	Voice present, but not consistent throughout. Vague, routine, & borders on informal / conversational.	Voice may disappear at times, inconsistent, not personal, sounds mechanical, flat, lifeless, stiff, or totally informal / conversational.	Little involvement by the writer. Writing sounds flat, not lively; overly formal or informal. No serious consideration due to so many obvious errors and misunderstandings.	X 2=
Conventions Error free! Punctuation, grammar, spelling, paragraphing are all perfect. Correct MLA format.	Spelling, grammar, & punctuation are generally correct. Correct MLA format. Demonstrates control over writing conventions; mistakes are minor.	Some mistakes show up, but reader is still able to follow writing pretty well. Errors are evident and cause awkward reading. May have MLA format errors.	Reader may stumble a bit. Caps are mostly there. Simple words are spelled correctly. Errors occur so frequently that they stand in the way of communication.	More errors than correct grammar. Reader has difficulty. No serious consideration due to so many obvious errors and misunderstandings.	X 2=

_____ Grade is reduced by 14% for every page under the required 7.

_____ Grade is reduced by 5% for each missing source or rejected source.

_____ This paper contains 1st or 2nd personal pronouns, -5%.

Total Points:

Minus Penalty:

= First Draft Grade: _____/100

Cienega High School Senior Exit Project Research Paper – Cover Sheet

Student Name:

Date:

Topic:

Teacher: