******National History Day**

**Advanced Research: Primary Sources and Historical POV**

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|  | **First**Identifying Primary Sources | **Second**Thinking Like a Historian | **Third**Historical Significance |
| **Research Description** | Analyzing primary sources will help you to draw your own conclusions about the significance of your topic and its connection to the theme. | Historians interpret the past by looking at events and turning points through historic lenses. They use these lenses to better understand the way turning points affected people in different ways.  | A thorough understanding of historical contest, turning point, historical debates, primary sources, and historic lenses will enable you to show your topic’s significance in history. You will argue this significance with a thesis statement. |
| **Types of sources** | * Letters, Diaries, Telegraph Messages
* Government Documents and Legal Cases
* Photos, Moving Footage, Newsreels, Speeches
 | * Documents that illustrate cultural impact, economic impact, religious impact, political impact, social impact
 | * Legal cases that use your topic as a reference.
* New laws that can be traced back to your topic
* A continuing debate that is based on your topic
* Foreign or domestic policy that changed because of your topic
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| **Questions to ask** | * Who is the author?
* What is their point of view?
* How is this person involved?
* Does the information conflict with or agree with the secondary sources?
* What other information do you need to answer your questions?
 | * How did your topic influence society as a whole?
* Were any members of society impacted more or less than others?
* What was gained or lost because of your topic?
 | * What are the immediate and

long-term impacts of your topic?* How does this significance

continue to matter today?* What argument can you make

that connects the historical significance to the theme?* What is the “so what” that you

want your audience to know about your conclusions? * Why does this matter?
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