

What are the Qualities of a Good Web Site?

The qualities that a judge is looking for in your NHD web site are written right on the evaluation sheet. Listed below is the same criteria judges will use to evaluate your web site. After you create your web site, go through this list and ask yourself if you've met the criteria or incorporated the information into your project.



Historical Quality – 80% (At 80%, the historical quality of your web site is by far the most important)

- My web site is historically accurate:** All the information in my web site is true to the best of my knowledge.
- I show analysis and interpretation:** My web site doesn't just recount facts or tell a story. I interpret and analyze my topic. My web site has a strong central thesis or argument that I prove. I can point to where I state my thesis in my web site.
- I place my topic in historical context:** My topic didn't take place in isolation. I made sure to place my topic into historical context – the intellectual, physical, social and cultural setting for my topic.
- My project shows wide, balanced research and I used available primary sources:** These ideas all relate to the research behind your NHD web site. Judges will look carefully at your bibliography to learn more about your research process. They want to see that you investigated multiple perspectives about your topic and to see that you looked at all sides of an issue. They are looking for research using both primary and secondary sources and to see that you used a variety of source types.
- I clearly relate my topic to the theme: A theme connection is clear in my web site itself"**
- I demonstrate significance of my topic in history and draw conclusions: A web site does more than "just describe my topic" I explain why my topic is important in history or demonstrate its significance"**
- My project clearly shows my voice:** Judges will look to see that the ideas, analysis, argument, and conclusions in your project are original and persuasive.



Clarity of Presentation – 20%

- My web site and written materials are original, clear, appropriate, and organized:** I have an organized and well-written project. I was careful to avoid plagiarism and I have double-checked spelling and grammar in my web site, process paper and bibliography.
- My web site has visual impact, uses multimedia effectively and actively involved the viewer:** I thought about the overall design and organization of my web site. I chose multimedia and interactive elements to help viewers understand my topic and prove my argument. I chose fonts, colors and formats that are clear and easy to read.