

English 11 Family Heritage Project / trw

American literature tells the story of a diverse people. It reveals each culture's struggles, as well as values.

The essential question for our first unit of study asks, "How do you define your personal heritage?"

To recognize and pay homage to the various backgrounds in this classroom, you will research, interview, and compile information that makes each of your families unique.

Step 1: Set up a google email account if you do not already have one. This will require you to use a phone #. Do not get out your cell phone without individual permission from your teacher. If you do not have a cell phone, you will need to use your home ground line to get an authentication ID #.

Step 2: Go to <http://www.pbs.org/americanfamily/tree/> to create a family tree. Make the bottom tier you and your siblings. There are 15 questions to answer for each family member. Answer any 8 of these for each leaf on your tree. You will undoubtedly need to make inquiries to complete this assignment. If you can email the person, by all means, do so.

You will need to complete this assignment by the end of this Wednesday's class. Please bring your USB flash drive so that you can print from the class printer.

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Step 3: Research your last name. Find out the origin of your name on <http://www.ancestry.com/learn/facts>. Find out where your name is most common on <http://worldnames.publicprofiler.org/>

Record information on a sheet of loose leaf paper labeled RESEARCH. Use <http://www.easybib.com/> to correctly cite each of your sources.

Step 4: On the same sheet of paper, list at least one piece of information you have heard about your family's history. To cite your source, use <http://www.easybib.com/> under the "Interview" category.

Staple the RESEARCH portion of the project to the back of your family tree print out.

Step 5: PRESENT your findings to the class through a brief, three-slide PowerPoint/ Keynote.

Slide #1: Family name with pictures or photos

Slide #2: Fact about name or family history

Slide #3: Most interesting or entertaining fact you uncovered while doing family tree.

*Be prepared to turn in and present on
Friday, September 13.*