Unit 10: Postwar United States Era Project

This rubric provides a consistent framework for evaluating Unit 10 projects, ensuring fair and transparent assessment. It sets clear expectations for historical research, analytical thinking, and effective communication as students examine presidential leadership during the postwar United States era (1945–1970). Projects will be assessed on historical accuracy, depth of analysis, and the ability to explain major accomplishments, new programs, Cold War strategies, foreign relations, and involvement in the Civil Rights Movement. Students must present their work as either a 2-minute video presentation with at least eight content slides and relevant images or a 600-word essay in proper MLA format. Organization, persuasiveness, clarity, and correct MLA citations are required. All sources must be credited appropriately, and plagiarism will not be tolerated.

ADD World and US History Second Semester for Unit 10 (Option 1:Video Presentation) Rubric						
Criteria	Excellent	Good	Needs Improvement	Below Expectation		
Content Accuracy & Depth (40 pts)	40 pts Shows deep understanding of the topic, with accurate facts, insightful analysis, and thoughtful connections. Content is engaging and well-developed	30 pts Shows deep understanding of the topic, with accurate facts, insightful analysis, and thoughtful connections. Content is engaging and well-developed	20 pts Shows deep understanding of the topic, with accurate facts, insightful analysis, and thoughtful connections. Content is engaging and well- developed	10 pts Little to no understanding of the topic is shown. Major inaccuracies or completely off-topic.		
Organization & Clarity (15 pts)	15 pts The presentation is well structured with a strong beginning, middle, and end. Ideas flow clearly and logically.	10 pts Mostly clear and organized with few rough spots. Transition could be smoother.	5 pts The presentation is hard to follow, and the ideas seem out of order.	0 pts Lack a clear structure. Difficult to understand the main message or progression		
Use of Visuals (Video Option) (20 pts)	(20 pts) Clear, confident speaking at a natural pace with good expression and volume. The video meets the minimum required length.	(15 pts) The speaker is mostly clear but sounds a bit rushed. The video is slightly below minimum required length	(10 pts) Sometimes unclear or rushed speaking; inconsistent volume or expression. The video is below minimum required length	(5 pts) Difficult to understand due to pace, volume, or clarity issues. The video is significantly below minimum required length		
Effort & Creativity (15 pts)	15 Pts The project shows exceptional effort and care. It is clear that time, thought and creativity went into every part of it	10 pts A solid project with clear effort. It could use a few more creative touches.	5 pts Some effort is evident, but it feels basic or unfinished. More thought needed in design or delivery	2 pts Very little effort or originality. Projects feel rushed, incomplete, or careless.		
Works Cited Page (10 pts)	(10 pts) Correctly formatted MLA Works Cited page included with all sources.	(5 pts) Shows deep understanding of the topic, with accurate facts, insightful analysis, and thoughtful connections. Content is engaging and well-developed	(3 pts) The works cited page is incomplete or contains significant errors.	(0 pts) No Works Cited page included.		

ADD World and US History Second Semester Unit 10 (Option 2: Essay) Rubric						
Criteria	Excellent	Good	Needs Improvement	Below Expectation		
Scientific/Historical Content Knowledge (40 pts)	40 pts Thoroughly covers major accomplishments, programs, the Cold War, and civil rights involvement with detailed, accurate information.	30 pts Covers most required topics with mostly accurate information and some details.	20 pts Covers some required topics but lacks detail or has minor inaccuracies.	5 pts Covers few topics; information is incomplete or inaccurate.		
Grammar, Mechanics & Punctuation (15 pts)	15 pts Nearly error-free grammar, spelling, and punctuation that do not interfere with readability.	10 pts Minor errors in grammar, spelling, or punctuation that do not significantly affect readability.	5 pts Multiple errors that occasionally interfere with readability and clarity.	2 pts Frequent errors in grammar, spelling, or punctuation that significantly interfere with readability.		
Organization & Development (20 pts)	20 pts The essay follows MLA format excellently with a clear introduction, 3 body paragraphs, and a conclusion; ideas flow logically with strong transitions.	15 pts Mostly follows MLA format; clear structure with minor issues in flow or paragraph development.	10 pts Some structure present but paragraphs may be underdeveloped or disorganized; MLA formatting	5 pts Lacks clear organization; paragraphs are poorly developed; MLA format is not followed.		
Effort, Quality & Creativity (20 pts)	20 pts Your work goes above and beyond! It shows strong effort, accuracy, and great attention to detail. The content is clear, engaging, and well thought out.	15 pts You completed the task with good effort. The content is accurate and covers the topic with appropriate depth.	10 pts You did the basics, but it may be missing some key details or polish. There's room for improvement in clarity or depth.	4 pts The work is incomplete, off-topic, or shows little effort. It does not meet the assignment's goals.		
Works Cited in MLA Format (10 pts)	10 pts All sources are cited correctly with proper MLA formatting; the works cited page is complete and accurate.	5 pts Sources cited with minor formatting errors; works cited page mostly complete.	3 pts Some sources were cited, but the formatting was incomplete or inconsistent; the works cited page was incomplete.	0 pts No citations or works cited page, or the citation format is incorrect throughout.		

Plagiarism Policy Reminder

American High School upholds the highest standards of academic integrity and expects all students to demonstrate honesty and responsibility in their academic work. Academic integrity is a fundamental value of our school community, requiring students to complete their own work and appropriately acknowledge the ideas and words of others.

This expectation also includes the responsible use of technology. The excessive or inappropriate use of artificial intelligence (AI) tools to complete assignments, tests, or projects in place of a student's own effort is considered a violation of the school's academic integrity policy.

Any instance of plagiarism, defined as presenting another person's work, ideas, or expressions as one's own, is a serious violation of school policy. Students found in violation of the plagiarism policy will face disciplinary consequences.

Students are encouraged to review the full policy to ensure a clear understanding of expectations and consequences.

Click here to read the updated Plagiarism and Academic Integrity Policy.