

This rubric provides a consistent framework for evaluating student projects for Unit 2, ensuring fairness and clarity in assessment. It establishes clear expectations for creativity, historical understanding, and effective communication, guiding students in applying their knowledge of past civilizations to design an original, well-developed empire. Each project will be assessed on historical accuracy, creativity, and the thoughtful integration of characteristics from at least six civilizations studied in this unit. The rubric emphasizes the student's ability to explain and justify their choices, demonstrating both historical knowledge and critical thinking. Students will be evaluated on their **historical understanding**, shown through accuracy in describing and adapting cultural, political, economic, military, and social characteristics from chosen civilizations; their **creative application**, reflected in the originality and depth of their new empire design; and the **quality of presentation**, including clear organization, logical flow, visually appealing slides, and consistent formatting. In addition, projects will be assessed for **analytical explanation**, with each characteristic supported by clear reasoning, historical background, and a discussion of its potential benefit to the new empire, as well as **use of evidence and sources**, with appropriate reference to historical examples, accurate details, and proper citations when applicable. Proper credit must be given for any outside materials, and plagiarism will not be tolerated. This rubric is designed to promote historical reasoning, encourage innovative thinking, and strengthen students' ability to connect past civilizations to creative, evidence-based projects.

ADD World and US History First Semester for Unit 2 Rubric				
Criteria	Excellent	Good	Needs Improvement	Below Expectation
Organization and Development (20 pts)	20 pts Each slide contains a relevant, high-quality image with neat, consistent formatting, enhancing understanding and engagement	15 pts Slides have relevant images with mostly consistent formatting; minor design issues.	10 pts Some slides are missing images or have inconsistent formatting that distracts.	5 pts Slides lack images or have poor formatting that hinders readability or engagement.
Grammar, Mechanics, and Punctuation (15 pts)	15 pts Error-free; strong command of grammar, mechanics, and punctuation enhances clarity and understanding.	10 pts Minor errors are present but do not distract from understanding or flow.	5 pts Errors occasionally interfere with clarity or distract the reader.	2 pts Frequent and distracting errors significantly interfere with readability and understanding.
Scientific Content Knowledge (40 pts)	40 pts Demonstrates a thorough understanding of at least six characteristics from all civilizations; Explanations are insightful and detailed with historical accuracy.	30 pts Shows good understanding of at least six characteristics; explanations are clear but may lack some detail or minor inaccuracies.	20 pts Partial understanding of characteristics with incomplete explanations or some inaccuracies.	5 pts Lacks understanding of key characteristics; explanations are vague, incorrect, or missing.
Quality (15 pts)	15 pts Each slide contains a relevant, high-quality image with neat, consistent formatting, enhancing understanding and engagement.	10 pts Slides have relevant images with mostly consistent formatting; minor design issues.	5 pts Some slides are missing images or have inconsistent formatting that distracts.	2 pts Slides lack images or have poor formatting that hinders readability or engagement.
Works Cited (10 pts)	10 pts All sources are cited correctly in an appropriate format on a Works Cited slide.	5 pts Most sources are cited with minor formatting errors or inconsistencies.	2 pts Some sources are cited, but the citation is incomplete or inconsistent.	0 pts No sources cited or incorrect citation format 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.