MIDDLE EAST PROJECT & PRESENTATION

The Middle East is a hotbed for instability. The region’s history has been one that has included many different people, empires, and religions. More recent history has seen a region rich with oil but filled with turmoil.

TOPICS: (Key search terms/phrases for each topic are included in blue)

Conquest
The region has been settled and conquered by many different people and empires throughout its history.
*Middle East, empires, history (of), imperialism*
*history of middle eastern empires*

SUNNI-SHIA Split
The differences between the two groups go back to Muhammad’s death.
*Islam, Sunni & Shia conflict (split), history of*
*history of Sunni-Shia split*

Islamism and Fundamental Islam
A very small percentage of Muslims want to return the region to its ‘glory days’ of the Caliphate.
*Islamism, fundamental Islam, Islamic fundamentalism*

The Holy Land
The religious center of the world is located in the region, which has caused many historical conflicts.
*Holy Land, history (of), conflict*
*Holy Land history and conflict*

European Intervention
Following the fall of the Ottoman Empire, European powers colonized the region, exploiting it for natural resources and redrawing borders to create nations.
*European colonization, Middle East, history (of), imperialism*
*European colonization in the Middle East*

Israel-Palestine Split
The creation of Israel following WWII has created issues between Muslims and Jews in the region, as well as spurring frustration with the West.
*Israeli-Palestinian conflict (split), history*
*history of Israeli-Palestinian conflict*

Oil
As the world’s largest exporter of the commodity, the region has faced many issues connected to its large oil reserves.
*Middle East, oil industry, history (of)*
*history of oil in the Middle East*
DIRECTIONS

GROUPS:

Students will be divided into groups of three to complete the project. Each group will be assigned one of the topics listed above. You will be expected to work collaboratively and cooperatively with your group, and each member of the group will be evaluated by the other members of the group as part of the final project grade.

RESEARCH:

Each class will spend three days in the media center researching assigned topics. Mr. Sapere in the media center has created a research pathfinder for groups to use to compile research. Dividing research responsibilities will be left to each group’s individuals. Any research not completed in the three days given in the media center must be conducted on your own time. Any additional time (after the first three days) spent in the media center will be used to work on the second aspect of the project: the presentation. Research will be graded based on the inclusion of important people, places, and or/events related to your topic and your group's ability to answer the following questions:

What is the historical context/background of the topic?
When did the topic begin to influence the Middle East?
Who/what can be blamed for the topic causing instability in the region?
How is the topic still impacting the region today?
What can the world do to help resolve or diminish the issue?
Is there an end in sight to the conflict and instability in the region surrounding the topic?

PRESENTATION:

Each group will create a presentation using PowerPoint or Prezi. Presentations will be given in front of the class beginning Monday, 1/23. Presentation order will be determined randomly, but each group MUST submit a completed presentation to me via email by 8:00 AM on January 23rd. All presentations will be graded on the following criteria:

1. Minimum of 5 slides – Maximum 7 slides (title slide does not count)
2. Each slide must contain pictures that coincide with the information being discussed.
3. Each slide can have NO MORE THAN 10 WORDS! It is the responsibility of the presenters to be informative and knowledgeable, not the slides. (Title INCLUDED in 10 words!)
4. Each picture must have a citation below it containing a URL where the picture originated. These citations are not included in the 10-word count.
5. Every member of the group must present at least one slide.
WORKS CITED:

Each group will turn in a list of sources used to compile research. This Works Cited page must include the following information from each source in the order seen below. You may wish to use NoodleTools to create your citations.

Author. “Article Title.” Journal/Magazine Title. Name of Website/Database. Date Written. URL.

*One or more of these may be unavailable. Every article will be different.

Citation Example: