**Know-A-Region Presentation Rubric**

Throughout the course of the semester, you will be researching a country that is a part of one of our Know-a Region sub-units. The goal of this assignment is not to simply list facts, but to give your classmates a deeper understanding of the culture and social conditions of this country. You will incorporate information on economics, politics, culture and history, landscape and climate, and current conflicts. Using your understanding of the influence of geography on humans, you must then analyze why these socio-cultural conditions exist within this particular place in the world.

For example: Instead of saying,

“Afghanistan is a third world country because its people are poor” You would explain ***why*** the majority of Afghani people are experiencing poverty: “The population of Afghanistan experiences a high level of poverty becase a) it’s physical landscape is resource poor and mountainous, making trade and travel very difficult b) this lack of economic stability effects the level of education of most Afghani citizens, with a literacy rate of only 43% and c) the Islamic faith (predominate within the Middle Eastern Region), as it is practiced in Afghanistan is restrictive upon female education, which further damages the economy by contributing to illiteracy and keeping half of the population out of the work force.

This is ANALYSIS, not summary. Any project which simply lists facts or statistics without an analysis of how they relate or are affected by geography, and how they effect the actual humans living within the country will have to be rewritten.

Below are the specific guidelines for this project.

**Assignment Criteria**

-Visual/ Cultural element: (20%) Creatively display some of the traits of your country. Visuals can include photos, art, maps, artifacts, videos (made by you), dance and food. NO Powerpoints! Think of how YOU would like to be taught about this country, and teach it to your classmates that way.

-Verbal element: (30%) Explain the culture/country you are presenting verbally to your classmates. Full points are given based on the quality of your explanation and ANALYSIS of contributing factors to the conditions of your country (see above), presentation of multiple aspects of your country (political, physical, cultural ect.), and your ability to answer relevant questions (research!)

-Written element: (50%) Before your presentation, you must turn in a researched, MLA cited paper regarding your presentation topic. This must be typed, and should be, 3-4 double spaced, 12 pt Times New Roman with a WORKS CITED PAGE IN MLA FORMAT. Any paper without properly cited references are considered plagiarized, and will receive 0 credit. See explanation of analysis above to understand how this is to look.

**Helpful hints:**

-You only have a few of these a year, so be sure to put in plenty of effort!

-Make sure you cite ALL your sources!

- Choose a country that you are actually interested in. If you’re bored of it, chances are the rest of us will be too. The project will be a lot more fun if you like what you’re learning about.

\_Most importantly ANALYZE, do not list facts!

**Main Points to cover in your presentation/ paper:**

- History andCultural aspects of your country (art, food, religion, dress, ect.)

- Economics/ Natural Resources

- Politics, what type of government? How does this form of gov. affect the people?

- Land/ Physical features (is your country mountainous, coastal, arid, ect.)

- Climate

- Current conflicts/ issues facing your country

\*An Unexcused absence on the day of your presentation will result in the loss of half credit on this assignment- no makeups.

An excused absence will require you to reschedule your presentation, which will change the country you must cover…. Moral of the story: make sure you show up on your presentation day!