

Mesopotamia Travel Magazine PROJECT

60pts

INTRODUCTION

You and another inhabitant (another classmate) of Mesopotamia have just been chosen by a group of Sumerian leaders to promote immigration and tourism into the region of Mesopotamia. You are responsible to “market” this region by discussing the geography, people, places, history and activities that people can take part in. You are not only going to entice the people of this world, you are also going to have a hand in helping the great land of Mesopotamia prosper.

THE TASK

The task is for students to be broken into groups (2 in a group – ONLY 3 with uneven class numbers) to research information on ancient Mesopotamia and create a travel magazine to promote immigration and tourism. Within this magazine you will be including information about the selected destination, areas of historical and recreational interest, people and events, and anything else of interest. In addition, you must include pictures and images to appeal to the eyes of your consumers. Remember, first impressions are always the most lasting impressions, so be creative!

THE PROCESS

1. **BRAINSTORM - Start by thinking how you want to lay out your magazine. You can do this several ways:**
 - a. PowerPoint – each slide can be a page in the magazine.
 - b. Tri-board – make a poster board with pictures, words, and cool texts.
 - c. Copy-paper Booklet – You can take copy paper, staple pages together and make an actual travel magazine that can be flipped through.
 - d. You need to look at examples of real life travel magazines to get ideas (a few pictures are provided)
2. **CRITERIA - In your magazine you need to discuss/include the following:**
 - a. Include a detailed map of the region *you cannot include the map already done in class!*
 - b. Include a geographic descriptions *what kind of environment? Mountainous, flat-lands, desert, jungle?*
 - c. Include weather/climate reports *hot, cold, little rain, a lot of rain?*
 - d. Include a list of major cities and DISCUSS what is there to see *more than the three talked about in class!*
Include some rules/laws that tourists are expected to obey while vacationing or immigrants decide to life in the region.
 - e. Include stuff about entertainment that is available: music, art, food, recreational, housing availability
 - f. What language(s) do people in this region use? Writing?
 - g. Also consider discussing the local cultural/social customs and beliefs. Such as:
 - i. Cool technologies used in the area *look at notes, also INCLUDE EXTRA*
 - ii. religions/beliefs *interesting beliefs, customs, rituals the people of Mesopotamia did*
 - iii. Gods/Goddesses *names of specific gods, what they stood for*
 - iv. type(s) of government *names of famous rulers, more than just in class,
 - v. daily life in Ancient Mesopotamia *more than just from your notes!*
3. **RESEARCH - You must use more than just the notes we have done in class!**
 - a. The notes on Mesopotamia are good sources to use but they CANNOT be the only source. I want new information too! Read, research, go deeper! Here are some sources you can use:
 - i. <http://www.mesopotamia.co.uk/menu.html>
 - ii. <http://www.britannica.com/place/Mesopotamia-historical-region-Asia>
 - iii. <http://mesopotamia.mrdonn.org/>
 - iv. <http://www.ancient.eu.com/Mesopotamia/>
 - v. <http://www.womeninworldhistory.com/lesson2.html>
 - vi. <http://oi.uchicago.edu/museum/highlights/meso.html>
 - vii. <http://www.smpromotions.org/mesopotamian-religion.html> (go to the bottom and click the additional links!)
 - viii. <http://www.timemaps.com/civilization/Ancient-Mesopotamia#location>
 - ix. http://www.mesopotamia.co.uk/gods/explore/exp_set.html
 - x. <http://www.crystalinks.com/assyrian.html>

4. **ASSESSMENT - Each group member will be given an individual grade as well as a group grade.**
- a. Group members will be graded individually based on:
 - i. the fulfillment of his/her job
 - ii. the quality of material included in the brochure
 - iii. the content, organization, and mechanics of the persuasive writing
 - iv. the creativity executed to complete the work
 - v. the neatness exhibited in the final product
 - b. Group grades will be based on:
 - i. the overall appearance of the final product
 - ii. the collaborative effort exhibited to complete the brochure
 - iii. the fulfillment of the project criteria

EXAMPLES

