

Contemporary Issue Project – Scoring Rubric

Student: _____ Date _____

Topic _____ Format _____

The purpose of this Contemporary Issue Project is to:

- Identify an issue or problem that concerns you,
- Investigate the issue from various viewpoints, address biases or prejudices evident in your sources,
- Communicate the facts you learned and summarize your opinions regarding the topic. Reflect your personal connections to the subject, how your opinion was affected by your research, and what the future holds for your issue.
- Show your creativity and professionalism.

Your Contemporary Issue Project is worth 50 total points. Projects that earn the highest value for each criterion will reflect a thorough understanding of the material, be neat, and show an original presentation style. You may write a letter to a public official or newspaper, design a PowerPoint presentation, create a poster or brochure, give an oral report (5 minutes), or choose another creative way to present your issue to the class.

| Criterion | Available Points | Your Points | Comments |
|---|------------------|-------------|----------|
| Title of Project | 2 | | |
| Background information | 2 | | |
| Why you are concerned about the issue | 2 | | |
| Proper citation for quotes and references (separate page) | 2 | | |
| Freedom from errors | 2 | | |
| Explanation of the problem or issue | 5 | | |
| Impact of the issue on people, animals, environment, you, etc. | 5 | | |
| Causes of the problem, contributing factors, costs | 5 | | |
| Possible solutions based on research: accept or reject various viewpoints | 10 | | |
| Your conclusion | 5 | | |
| Creativity & originality | 10 | | |
| Total | 50 | | |