Name: Date: Period:

Oral History Project Plan

Directions: The following is a plan that should be followed each day in order to make sure your Oral History Project is completed by the deadline.

STEP ONE

ORAL HISTORY RESEARCH PLAN

PLAN YOUR INTERVIEW

Think about the things we have learned about in this unit. We have learned about the civil liberties located in the Bill of Rights. We have also learned about the civil rights that protect groups of people from being denied their access to their civil liberties.

1) Creating Research Questions: (Criterion B Skill)

Choose three topics that interest you from our unit. Then create three possible research questions that you would like to answer by conducting their oral history.

- **Example Topic #1:** 4th amendment
- **Example Question #1:** How have the 4th Amendment rights of my community members been respected in the past and present?
- **Example Topic #2:** Title IX
- **Example Question #2:** How has equal access to athletics affected the lives of the women in my life?

Topic:

Question:

Topic:

Question:

Topic:
Question:
2) Choosing a Source (Criterion B Skill) Now think about someone in your life who may be able to answer one of these questions with some LIVED EXPERIENCE Ask around. Tell people what you are working on and see if they have any great stories for you. If they do, ask them if they will be your interviewee.
Be careful who you choose! If the person doesn't have a lot to say, this may have been a poor source to choose. Make sure you choose someone who has LIVED experience in the topic you are researching. Choosing the wrong interviewee can make your Criterion B score go down.
Who are you going to interview?
Tell your interviewee about what we have been studying. Which research question does your interviewee think they can talk a lot about?

STEP TWO

CREATING INTERVIEW QUESTIONS (Criterion B Skill)

Now you need to create at least three questions that get your interviewee talking about their lived experience with the research question. Your ultimate goal is TO ANSWER YOUR RESEARCH QUESTION. So create smaller questions that get your interviewee to answer it for you with stories from their life.

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STEP THREE

ORAL HISTORY INTERVIEW

CONDUCT YOUR INTERVIEW

Note on Audio/Video:

- 1. Make sure you are in a well lit place and that your subject is completely on screen.
- 2. Make sure you are in a QUIET place where you will not be interrupted.
- 3. Test your video once to check if you can see/hear well.

Ask your interviewee your questions. Remember, you want great stretches of conversation (3-5 minutes) that you will be able to use to answer your research question as well as turn into a monologue. Be sure to use follow up with questions like:

- What was that like?
- How did that feel?
- What did you think about that at the time?
- What do you think about that now?

And any other questions that come to mind. Keep your interviewee talking. Actively listen.

Etiquette and Active Listening

While your interviewee is speaking, stay off of electronics, maintain eye contact, nod and offer comments or questions when they pause. Remember to thank your interviewee when you are finished.

Generational Links: An Exploration of Social & Systemic Injustice and Community Narratives in Baltimore and Beyond Unit by Baltimore City College High School, part of the 2021 cohort of *The 1619 Project* Education Network

STEP FOUR

COMPLETE REFLECTION

You cannot do this without having done your interview.

First Paragraph

Introduce your topic, research question and your source (your interviewee). Give some background about your topic. Discuss why you were initially interested in this particular topic.

Second Paragraph

Did anything surprise you? What was your initial reaction to the interview? What was difficult/easy about the interview process?

Third Paragraph

What did you learn about the research question? Write about your interview questions and discuss how your interviewee's answered them. Explain how these answers helped you learn more about your research question.
