



# Hanger Person Biography

*Retelling the Life of an Important Historical Figure*

**A Visual Arts and Language Arts  
Interdisciplinary Project based on  
the Common Core Standards**

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**Project given: Tuesday, January 24, 2017**

**Project Due Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2017**

**Project Performance Date: Wednesday, February 22, 2017**

**Student Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Historical Biography Subject:** \_\_\_\_\_

**(No Substitutions Will Be Allowed)**



# Part One: Biography

For this portion of the project, your students will be writing a biography on an historical figure. I have included all graphic organizers you will need to help scaffold your students' writing and ensure the best possible written product.

You will find the following pages, in the following order:

**Prewriting Graphic Organizers**  
**Requirements Checklist**  
**Grading Rubric**  
**Final Draft Paper**

# Part Two: Hanger Person

For this portion of the project, your students will be creating a "Hanger Person" in the likeness of the subject.

Gather the following materials before you begin:

**A wire hanger for each student**  
**Large WHITE railroad tag paper (18" x 24")**  
**Scissors**  
**Tape**  
**Glue**  
**Art supplies needed to create a "person" (ie: construction paper, felt, yarn for hair, foil, metallic paper for buttons or glasses, buttons, markers, collage materials....ANYTHING you have that you think the students would like to use to decorate the hanger person)**

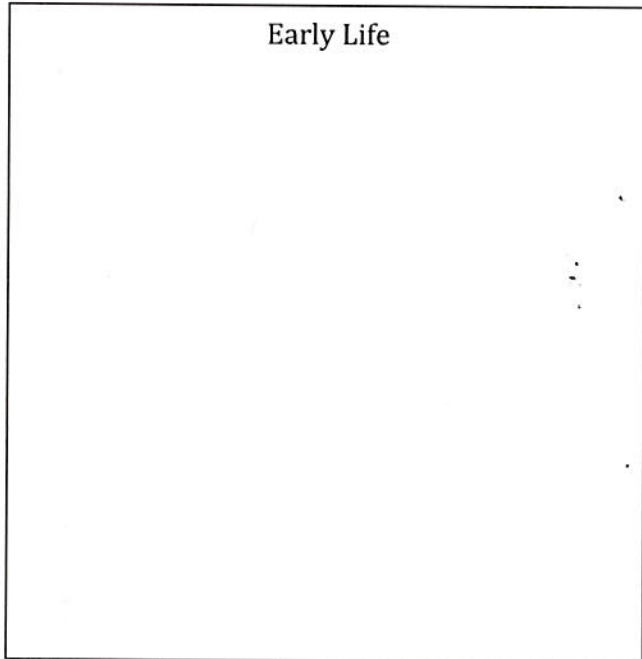
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## Biography: *Information Gathering Organizer*

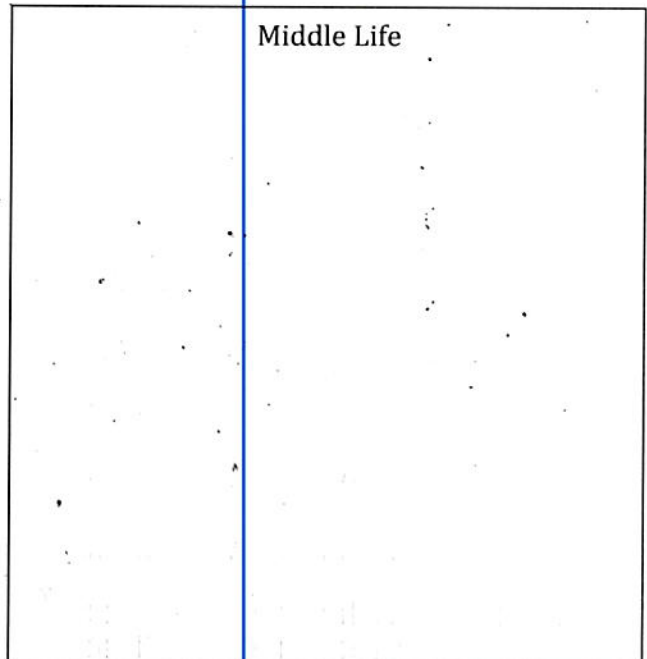
Subject: \_\_\_\_\_

**In the boxes below, write any and all information you can gather about your subject. Include dates, important events, specific time periods and occurrences in the subject's life. The more information the better.**

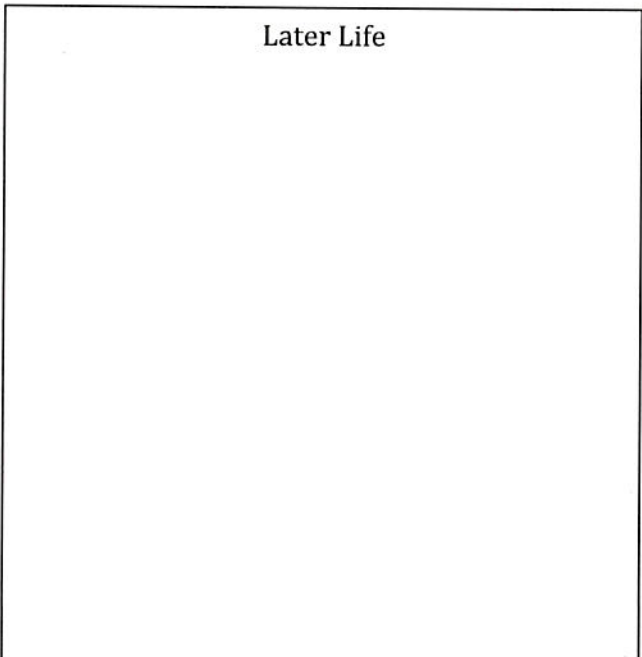
Early Life



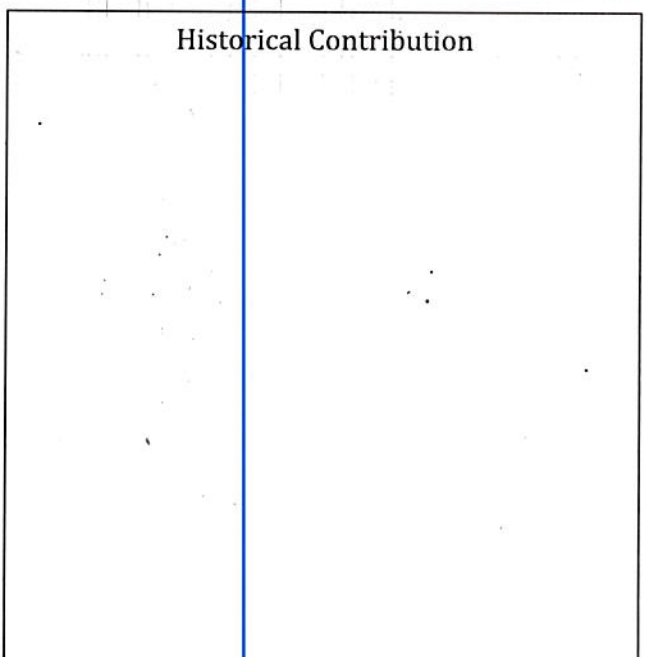
Middle Life



Later Life



Historical Contribution



Name #: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Biography: *Introduction Paragraph*

Subject: \_\_\_\_\_

The introduction paragraph must lay out for the reader WHO your subject is, WHAT the major contribution to society is, WHERE and WHEN most of the subject's life took place and WHY that contribution is important to our society as a whole. You must introduce the person to your reader, without giving out any major details (that will come in the body of your biography).

**Fill in the boxes below with the information from your research:**

Who?

What?

When?

Why?

Where?

**Using all of the information above, write the rough draft of your introduction paragraph below. Be sure you have at least one thing from each box in your paragraph.**

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Name #: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## **Biography: *Body Paragraphs***

**Subject:** \_\_\_\_\_

The body will be split into 4 sections. Using the *Information Gathering Organizer*, write paragraphs including the information under each heading. Be sure your paragraphs are in chronological order and tell the story of your subject as completely as possible.

### **Early Life**

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Name #: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Biography: *Conclusion Paragraph*

Subject: \_\_\_\_\_

The conclusion paragraph must WRAP UP your biography. You must retell WHAT the major contribution to society was, HOW that contribution was important at the time of the subject's life, and the LASTING IMPACT this contribution has had on our society as a whole.

**Fill in the boxes below with the information from your research:**

Major Contribution?

Impact at the time?

Lasting impact on society?

**Using all of the information above, write the rough draft of your conclusion paragraph below. Be sure you have at least one thing from each box in your paragraph.**

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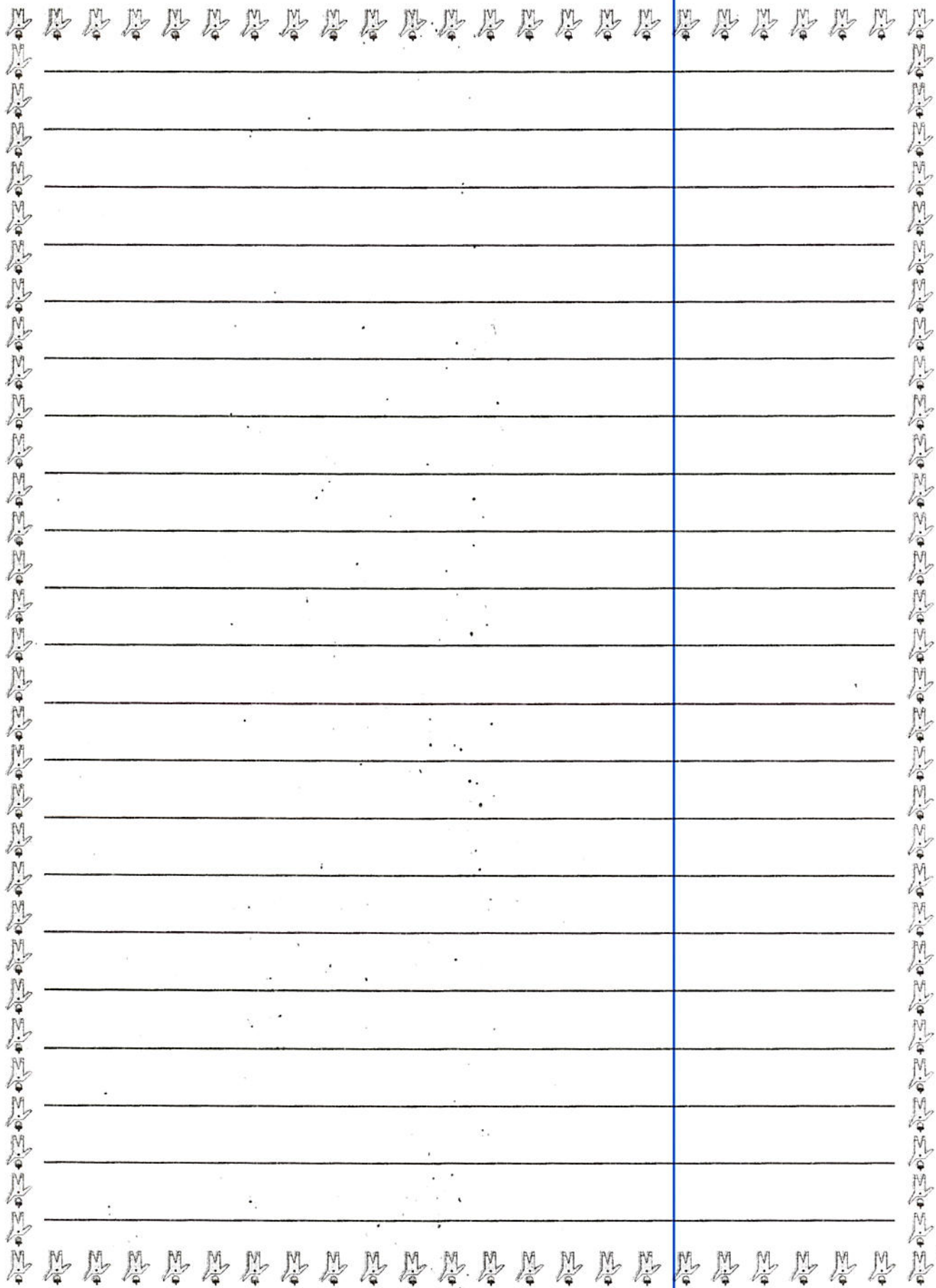
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Name #: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## **Biography: Writing Checklist**

Subject: \_\_\_\_\_

As you are writing, use this checklist to make sure you have included all of the important information and requirements in your rough draft. Check off each requirement as you complete it to be sure it is in your paper.

### **My writing:**

- \_\_\_ **Has an interesting introduction that includes WHO my subject is, WHAT my subject did, WHEN and WHERE my subject lived, and WHY the historical contribution is important.**
- \_\_\_ **Has 4 main headings: Early Life, Middle Life, Later Life, Historical Contribution.**
- \_\_\_ **Has information under each heading which accurately and factually tells the story of the life of my subject.**
- \_\_\_ **Has a conclusion that restates the HISTORICAL CONTRIBUTION, HOW that contribution helped during the time period in which the subject lived, and the IMPACT of that contribution.**
- \_\_\_ **Uses descriptive language, strong verbs, and specific nouns.**
- \_\_\_ **Develops idea clearly with explanations, details, and examples.**
- \_\_\_ **Uses capital letters, punctuation, correct spelling, and correct grammar.**
- \_\_\_ **Has complete sentences.**
- \_\_\_ **Is written in paragraph form.**
- \_\_\_ **Includes a bibliography that lists the sources of information for the report.**

Name #: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Biography: *Grading Rubric*

Subject: \_\_\_\_\_

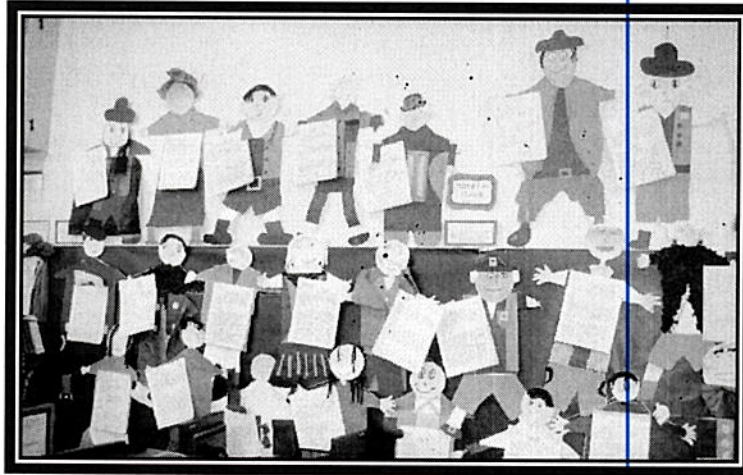
This rubric has all of the requirements you will need in order to achieve a score of 4, 3, 2, or 1. To meet the requirement of the score, you must score MOSTLY in that section.

	<b>Content</b>	<b>Conventions</b>
<b>4</b>	6 paragraphs ** An introduction with Who, What, When, Where, and Why ** Correct headings for each of the body sections ** Chronological order ** Each body paragraph includes details of the subject's life within that time period ** A complete conclusion with a recap of the major contribution, the impact on society and how the contribution helped the time in which the subject lived ** Follows all conventions of the Biography genre ** includes a bibliography	Writing includes the following:  Correct punctuation ** No more than 2 spelling errors ** Grammar correct, with no more than 2 errors that do not impede comprehension ** Capitalization correct ** Complete sentences ** Paragraphs indented
<b>3</b>	6 paragraphs ** An introduction with Who, What, When, Where, and Why ** Mostly correct headings for each of the body sections ** The paragraphs are mostly in chronological order ** Information in each body paragraph is accurate to that time period ** A mostly complete conclusion with a recap of the major contribution, the impact on society and how the contribution helped the time in which the subject lived ** Follows most conventions of the Biography genre ** includes a bibliography	Writing includes the following:  Correct punctuation ** Between 3 and 6 spelling errors ** Grammar mostly correct, with between 3 and 6 errors but do not impede comprehension ** Capitalization mostly correct, with 1-2 errors, which do not impede comprehension ** Mostly complete sentences ** Paragraphs indented
<b>2</b>	5 – 6 paragraphs ** An introduction which may include Who, What, When, Where, and Why ** Somewhat correct headings for each of the body sections ** The paragraphs are somewhat in chronological order ** Information in each body paragraph is somewhat accurate to that time period ** A somewhat complete conclusion with a recap of the major contribution, the impact on society and how the contribution helped the time in which the subject lived ** Follows some conventions of the Biography genre ** may or may not include a bibliography	Writing includes the following:  Somewhat correct punctuation ** Between 7 and 10 spelling errors, that somewhat impede comprehension ** Grammar somewhat correct, with between 7 and 10 errors, which may or may not impede comprehension ** Capitalization mostly correct, with 3-5 errors ** Mostly incomplete sentences ** Paragraphs not indented
<b>1</b>	0 - 5 paragraphs ** An introduction which may or may not include Who, What, When, Where, and Why ** Incorrect headings for each of the body sections ** The paragraphs are not in chronological order ** Information in each body paragraph is not accurate to that time period ** Incomplete conclusion with a recap of the major contribution, the impact on society and how the contribution helped the time in which the subject lived ** Follows little to no conventions of the Biography genre ** does not include a bibliography	Writing includes the following:  Incorrect punctuation ** More than 11 spelling errors, that impede comprehension ** More than 11 Grammar errors, which impede comprehension ** Capitalization incorrect, with more than 6 errors ** Incomplete sentences ** Paragraphs not indented

# Creating the Hanger Person

## Step-by-Step Instructions

To construct the actual figure, you will need a hanger, the railroad tagboard, a pencil, and a pair of scissors. Each of these steps should be done by the students, with modeling done by you.



1. At the top of the tagboard, place the hanger so that the “neck” is hanging off.
2. Trace the outline of the hanger. This will come in handy for the next few steps.
3. Remove the hanger. The shape that is drawn is the basis of the shoulders/arms for the person. From there, create the torso, the legs, and feet. Have the students draw the torso first, imagining that the shoulders, arms and chest are where the hanger is.
4. If your student wishes, he may draw extended arms coming off the hanger. Otherwise, he will attach hands later.
5. Cut out the body outline completely.
6. Begin to decorate it to look like the historical biographical subject.
7. Attach the hanger to the back of the shoulder area with tape.
8. Create a head, using a circle and some art supplies, and attach that to the neck of the hanger.
9. Display in the room with the written biography! (I like to have my hanger people holding the biography in their hands or on their bodies)

Name #: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Hanger Person: *Grading Rubric*

Subject: \_\_\_\_\_

This rubric has all of the requirements you will need in order to achieve a score of 4, 3, 2, or 1. To meet the requirement of the score, you must score MOSTLY in that section.

<b>4</b>	"Person" accurately portrays the subject of the biography ** Clothing is accurate to the time period ** Artwork is neatly put together ** Expression is evident in the face of the hanger person ** The body is positioned in a different and unique way ** Evidence of research on the subject through the clothing, hair style, etc...
<b>3</b>	"Person" is a mostly accurate portrayal of the subject of the biography ** Clothing is mostly accurate to the time period ** Artwork is mostly neat and put together ** Some expression is evident in the face of the hanger person ** The body is positioned in a mostly different and unique way ** Evidence of research on the subject through the clothing, hair style, etc...
<b>2</b>	"Person" is a mostly accurate portrayal of the subject of the biography ** Clothing is somewhat accurate to the time period ** Artwork is somewhat neat and put together ** Some expression is evident in the face of the hanger person ** The body is positioned in a somewhat different and unique way ** Some evidence of research on the subject through the clothing, hair style, etc...
<b>1</b>	"Person" is a not an accurate portrayal of the subject of the biography ** Clothing is not accurate to the time period ** Artwork is not neat and put together ** No expression is evident in the face of the hanger person ** The body is not positioned in a somewhat different and unique way ** No evidence of research on the subject through the clothing, hair style, etc...