



Al-Iman School
Integrated Subject Fair (ISF)
2022
Timeline

ISF Timeline	
1) February 21st – Assign ISF topic to students via Google Classroom	
Teacher's signature _____	Date _____
2) February 25th– ISF topic must be approved by all teachers	
Teacher's signature _____	Date _____
3) February 28th -March 4th- Research in classes (IS, SS, Sci, Math and Qur'an)	
Teacher's signature _____	Date _____
4) March 7th-March 25th- Essay (ELA)	
Teacher's signature _____	Date _____
5) March 28th-April 8th PPT Presentations and practice (IS)	
Teacher's signature _____	Date _____
6) March 11th (complete PPT with Arabic titles and subtitles) and shared with ELA teacher	
Teacher's signature _____	Date _____
7) ISF Oral Presentation APRIL 11 - 14 (RAMADAN WEEK 2)	
Teacher's signature _____	Date _____

A list of suggested topics are provided for students who need help selecting a viable topic broad enough to conduct interdisciplinary research. After selecting a topic students will write a brief description explaining the contents of their ISF research.

What kind of topics are available?

We compiled an exhaustive list of topics that would make great research papers. The topics are organized in a way to help you find one that will work for your project. There are **broader topics** as well as **more**

narrow topics listed underneath them. This allows you to look through the broad topics to find an area to focus on, but then gives you suggestions so that you don't have to worry about narrowing down a broad topic. The way we have organized the topics for research papers can save you lots of time getting prepared to write your research paper. We have topics which fit into categories which cover areas such as **education, environmental sciences, communication and languages, current events, politics, business, criminal justice, art, psychology and economics** to name just a few.

Simply get started by choosing the category that interests you and peruse through the topics listed in that category. Then you'll be well on your way to constructing an excellent research paper.

Make sure that you choose topics that are related to your grade level. If you would like to choose a topic that is not on the list you **MUST** have approval from all of your teachers before you move forward. Also please be mindful of the timeline and stick to the dates that have been given.

6th Grade—Introductory

● **Education**

- No government support vs. fairness to parents who pay twice for education
- Separation of church and state vs. religion's contribution to the public good
- Placement by age vs. placement by academic ability
- Mainstreaming students with disabilities vs. special classrooms for their special needs
- National standardized tests vs. local control of education
- Discrimination in education
- Multicultural/bilingual education vs. traditional basics
- Teacher competency tests vs. degree requirements only
- Teacher's needs/demands vs. teaching as a service profession
- Policing schools
- School's responsibility vs. parental responsibility for school violence
- Drug and alcohol abuse, pregnancy, suicide
- Zero tolerance toward violence vs. toughness with flexibility
- Permit corporal punishment
- Exams often do little more than measure a person's ability to take exams. Should exams be outlawed in favor of another form of assessment?
- Should teens in the U.S. adopt the British custom of taking a "gap year" between high school and college?
- In some European schools, fewer than 10% of students get "As". Is there grade inflation in the U.S.? Why so many "As" for Americans?
- Education and funding
- Grade inflation
- No Child Left Behind Act: Is it working?
- Home schooling

● **Internet**

- Are children smarter (or more socialized) because of the Internet?
- Should the federal government be allowed to regulate information on the internet?
- How has the music industry been affected by the internet and digital downloading?

● **Health, pharmacy & medical treatments**

- What are the effects of prolonged steroid use on the human body?
- What are the benefits and hazards of medical marijuana?
- How does tobacco use affect the human body?
- Do the benefits of vaccination outweigh the risks?

- What are some common sleep disorders and how are they treated?
- What are the risks of artificial tanning or prolonged exposure to the sun?
- Should thin people have to pay Medicare and other health costs for the health problems of obese people? Should obese people have higher premiums?
- Low carbohydrate vs. low fat diets
- Benefits of weight training vs. aerobics
- How much weekly exercise is needed to achieve lasting health benefits
- Health websites give too much information
- Psychological disorders, such as cutting and self-harm, eating disorders, Autism, Tourette Syndrome, ADHD, ADD, Asperger's Syndrome
- Are we taking it too far by blaming fast food restaurants for obesity? When is it individual responsibility and when is it appropriate to place blame?
- Should companies allow employees to exercise on work time?
- Steroids, Antibiotics, Sprays; Are food manufacturers killing us?
- Alternative medicine
- Alzheimer's disease
- Anorexia
- Causes of eating disorders? Society's portrayal of women
- Eating disorders statistics
- Down's syndrome
- Autism
- Birth control
- Bulimia
- Depression
- Dietary supplements
- Dyslexia
- Exercise and fitness
- Fad diets
- Fast food
- Heart disease
- In vitro fertilization
- Obesity
- Attention deficit disorder
- Investigate the history and authenticity of ADHD and ADD.
- Organic foods
- Prescription drugs
- Smoking
- Vegetarianism
- Learning disabilities
- Schizophrenia
- Coma recovery: techniques, successes, new strategies.
- What are the primary different types of cancer, and in what ways are they related?
- Is Alzheimer's inevitable? Examine theories regarding its prevention.
- What forms of physical degeneracy are seen as linked to aging?
- Investigate the connections between emotional stability and physical well-being, and provide evidence as to how the two are related or otherwise.
- Investigate differences in rates of injury recovery and overcoming illness based on cultural parameters.

- Examine the modern history of viral epidemics, researching what is known about the emergence of deadly viruses.
- Examine how congenital heart disease may be treated, and how it differs from other forms of heart disease.
- Is occasional depression a natural state to an extent, and is the culture too eager to treat this as a disorder?
- Investigate mental disorders, determine biological and psychological roots, typical patterns, and potentials of treatment.
- How are compulsive behaviors determined as such? Explore examples of anal retention and expulsion, OCD, etc., as offering accepted criteria.
- Research and analyze the nature of codependency as both a normal state of relations and as an unhealthy extreme.
- Investigate the history and practice of electroshock, analyzing how and why this extreme treatment came to be widely used.
- Hoarding: symptoms and treatments, causes, types of hoarding
- Limits on extraordinary, costly treatments vs. doing everything possible
- Nutritional/alternative therapy vs. mainstream medical treatment insurance coverage for alternative treatment?
- Government grants for alternative treatment research?
- Health superiority of alternative treatments?
- Should there be a national database to track controlled substances (i.e., Oxycodone) or should it be a state issue?
- Should parents avoid vaccinating their children?
- **Schools**
 - Should the government impose restrictions on what kinds of foods can be served in school cafeterias?
 - Pros and cons of school uniforms.
 - Do children learn better in boys-only and girls-only schools?
 - Charter schools
 - Prayer in schools
- **Animals**
 - Animal rights vs. medical research
 - Should it be illegal to use animals for sports and entertainment?
 - Humane treatment of animals vs. factory farms
 - Animal welfare in slaughterhouses
 - Animal protection vs. business, employment interests
- **Athletes**
 - Should shoe companies be able to give away free shoes and equipment to high school athletes?
 - Should college athletes be paid?
 - Doping in sports
 - What are the effects on children whose parents push them in sports?
 - Steroids: Should they be legalized?
 - Title IX: Has it helped women's sports? Has it harmed men's sports?
 - Social effects of team sports
- **Bullying**
 - Negative texting, instant messaging, email
 - Is cyber-bullying as bad as face-to-face?
 - Kinds of punishment for cyberbullying

- Media response
- Should the state or federal government put laws into place to prevent bullying?
- **Environment**
 - Pollution, air, and water
 - Endangered species
 - What are the risks of climate change and global warming?
 - Rain forests
 - Acid rain
 - Alternative energy
 - Alternative fuel/hybrid vehicles
 - Conservation
 - Deforestation
 - Endangered species
 - Greenhouse effect
 - Landfills
 - Marine pollution
 - How have oil spills affected the planet and what steps are being taken to prevent them?
 - Pesticides
 - Sustainability of buildings
 - Recycling programs
 - Cost of “green” programs
 - Wind turbines
 - Landfill issues
 - Renewable fuels
 - Pollution
 - Radioactive waste disposal
 - Smog
 - Soil pollution
 - Wildlife conservation: what efforts are being taken to protect endangered wildlife?
 - Excessive burden on industries?
 - Drilling for oil in Alaska in ANWR (Arctic National Wildlife Refuge)
 - Gasoline consumption vs. SUV’s popularity
 - Wildlife protection vs. rights of developers
 - Clean air and water standards—weakened vs. strengthened
 - What are the dangers of scuba diving and underwater exploration?
 - Should the use of coal be subjected to stricter environmental regulations than other fuels?
 - Is global warming a hoax? Is it being exaggerated?
 - How much is too much noise? What, if anything, should we do to curb it?
- **Farming**
 - Organic farming vs. mainline use of chemical sprays
 - How to best protect the environment; conservation
 - Family vs. corporate farms
 - Food production costs
- **History**
 - What happened during the Salem witch trials?
 - How did trains and railroads change life in America?
 - What may have occurred during the Roswell UFO incident of 1947?
 - What Olympic events were practiced in ancient Greece?
 - How did Cleopatra come to power in Egypt what did she do during her reign?

- What are the origins of the conflict in Darfur?
- What was the women's suffrage movement and how did it change America?
- How was the assassination of Abraham Lincoln plotted and executed?
- How did Cold War tension affect the US and the world?
- What happened to the lost settlers at Roanoke?
- How did Julius Caesar affect Rome?
- How did the Freedom Riders change society?
- What was the code of the Bushido and how did it affect samurai warriors?
- How did Joan of Arc change history?
- What dangers and hardships did Lewis and Clark face when exploring the Midwest?
- How are the Great Depression and the Great Recession similar and different?
- What was the Manhattan Project and what impact did it have on the world?
- Why did Martin Luther protest against the Catholic Church?
- How did the Roman Empire fall?
- How did the black plague affect Europe?
- How did Genghis Khan conquer Persia?
- How did journalists influence US war efforts in Vietnam?
- Who is Vlad the Impaler and what is his connection to Count Dracula?
- Who was a greater inventor, Leonardo di Vinci or Thomas Edison?
- What was the role of African Americans during the Revolutionary War?
- What was Britain's view of India during British rule?
- What were the factors in the China-Tibet conflict?
- Research and analyze the emergence of the Catholic Church as a political force following the collapse of the Roman Empire.
- Investigate Dr. Eileen Powers' claim that the Roman Empire was lost primarily due to an inability to perceive itself as subject to the change inevitable to all governments, or her "force of nature" theory.
- Explore and discuss the actual cooperation occurring through the centuries of Barbarian conquest of Rome.
- Examine the differences and similarities between Western and Eastern concepts and practices of kingship.
- Investigate and explain the trajectory of ALEXANDER THE GREAT's empire, with minimal emphasis on personal leadership.
- To what extent did commerce first link Eastern and Western cultures, and how did this influence early international relations?
- Research and analyze how Japan moved from a feudalistic to a modern state, and how geographic isolation played a role in the process.
- Analyze the process and effects of Romanization on the Celtic people of ancient England: benefits, conflicts, influences.
- Overview of British dominance of Ireland, Wales, and Scotland! How was this justified in each case, and what motivated the attempts over centuries of rebellion and failure?
- Investigate the known consequences of Guttenberg's printing press within the first 30 years of its invention, and only in regard to the interaction between European nations.
- Identify and analyze the point at which the Reformation became fused with European politics and nationalist agendas.
- To what extent did Henry VIII promote the Reformation, despite his vigorous persecution of heretics in England?
- Trace and discuss the uses of papal power as a military and political device in the 14th and 15th centuries.

- Research the city/state of Florence from the 13th to the 16th centuries, discussing how and why it evolved as so fiercely republican.
- Compare and contrast the Russian Czarism of Peter, Elizabeth, and Catherine with the monarchies of England and France in the 18th and 19th centuries.
- Investigate the enormous significance of Catholic Orthodoxy as the dominant faith in Russia, and its meaning and influence in an empire populated by a minimal aristocracy and predominant serfdom.
- To what extent did Philip II's religious convictions shape European policy and conflict in the 16th century?
- Trace the path leading to the convocation of the Estates in France in the late 18th century, leading to the Revolution. Assess political and social errors responsible.
- What eventually ended serfdom in Russia, and why were various attempts to end it by Czars in power uniformly unsuccessful?
- Research and report on how the industrial revolution, and the advent of the railroad, transformed England in the 19th century.
- Compare and contrast the consequences of the industrial revolutions in England and America in terms of urbanization.
- What were the circumstances leading to World War I, and how might the war have been averted?
- Assess the Cold War of the 20th century in an historical context: can any parallels be made between this conflict and other ongoing tensions between major powers in earlier centuries?
- Analyze Roosevelt's decisions in implementing the New Deal, beginning with the closing of the banks; suggest alternative strategies or reinforce the rationale of the actions.
- What architectural marvels were found in Tenochtitlan, capital of the Aztec Empire?
- What was the cultural significance of the first moon landing?
- **Poverty**
 - Food programs
 - Welfare reform
 - Governmental supplementation
 - Homeless: urban restrictions vs. needs of the destitute
 - Workable solutions?
- **Immigration**
 - Realistic limits vs. openness toward people in need
 - English as official language vs. respect for diversity
 - Should illegal immigrants be made legal citizens?
 - Access to public school and public programs for Illegal Aliens
 - Policing borders—workable solutions?
 - Employment and/or taxation for Illegal Aliens
- **Middle East**
 - International trade
 - Arms control
 - Democratization
 - "Shock and awe"
 - U.S. occupation vs. liberation
 - Iraqi run vs. U.S. puppet state
 - Oil and Gas prices-Control of resources
 - Effective self-government
 - War on Terrorism

- Is America winning or losing the War? What is the measurement of success? Have the benefits outweighed the costs?
- **Natural Disasters**
 - Governmental support
 - Preparedness
 - School emergency plans
 - Community warning systems
 - Damage costs
- **Technology**
 - How is text messaging affecting teen literacy?
 - Cell Phones: How have they changed us socially?
 - Does the Information Age mean we are losing important historical information?
- **What? Why? How?**
 - Why do we sleep?
 - How do GPS systems work?
 - Who was the first person to reach the North Pole?
 - Did anybody ever escape Alcatraz?
 - What was life like for a gladiator?
 - Are there any effective means of repelling insects?
 - How is bulletproof clothing made?
 - How was the skateboard invented and how has it changed over the years?
 - What is life like inside of a beehive?
 - Where did hip hop originate and who were its founders?
 - What makes the platypus a unique and interesting mammal?
 - What is daily life like for a Buddhist monk?
 - How did gunpowder change warfare?
 - How were cats and dogs domesticated and for what purposes?
 - What do historians know about ninjas?
 - Are humans still evolving?
 - What is the curse of the pharaohs?
 - Why was Socrates executed?
 - How did ancient sailors navigate the globe?
 - How are black holes formed?
 - How do submarines work?
 - Do lie detector tests accurately determine truthful statements?
 - How does a hybrid car save energy?
 - What ingredients can be found inside of a hotdog?
 - How does a shark hunt?
 - How does the human brain store and retrieve memories?
 - How does stealth technology shield aircraft from radar?
 - What causes tornados?
 - How does night vision work?
 - What causes desert mirages and how do they affect wanderers?
 - What are sinkholes and how are they formed?
 - What are the major theories explaining the disappearance of the dinosaurs?
- **Science**
 - Forensic science technology
 - What are the current capabilities and future goals of genetic engineers?
 - What obstacles faced scientists in breaking the sound barrier?

- What is alchemy and how has it been attempted?
- Stem cell research
- **Energy**
 - What technologies are available to homeowners to help them conserve energy?
 - Nuclear energy
 - Clean energy resources
 - Wind energy's wind energy really that cheap? Is it effective? Is it practical?
 - What are the dangers and hazards of using nuclear power?

7th Grade—Intermediate

- **Education**
 - No government support vs. fairness to parents who pay twice for education
 - Separation of church and state vs. religion's contribution to the public good
 - Placement by age vs. placement by academic ability
 - Mainstreaming students with disabilities vs. special classrooms for their special needs
 - Required standardized tests for advancement vs. course requirements only
 - National standardized tests vs. local control of education
 - Discrimination in education
 - Multicultural/bilingual education vs. traditional basics

- Teacher competency tests vs. degree requirements only
- Teacher's needs/demands vs. teaching as a service profession
- Policing schools
- School's responsibility vs. parental responsibility for school violence
- Drug and alcohol abuse, pregnancy, suicide
- Zero tolerance toward violence vs. toughness with flexibility
- Permit corporal punishment
- Exams often do little more than measure a person's ability to take exams. Should exams be outlawed in favor of another form of assessment?
- Should teens in the U.S. adopt the British custom of taking a "gap year" between high school and college?
- In some European schools, fewer than 10% of students get "As". Is there grade inflation in the U.S.? Why so many "As" for Americans?
- Education and funding
- Grade inflation
- No Child Left Behind Act: Is it working?
- Home schooling
- Standardized tests
- **Internet**
 - Are children smarter (or more socialized) because of the Internet?
 - Should the federal government be allowed to regulate information on the internet?
 - How has the music industry been affected by the internet and digital downloading?
 - How does a search engine work?
- **Health, pharmacy & medical treatments**
 - What are the effects of prolonged steroid use on the human body?
 - What are the benefits and hazards of medical marijuana?
 - How does tobacco use affect the human body?
 - Do the benefits of vaccination outweigh the risks?
 - What are some common sleep disorders and how are they treated?
 - What are the risks of artificial tanning or prolonged exposure to the sun?
 - Should thin people have to pay Medicare and other health costs for the health problems of obese people? Should obese people have higher premiums?
 - Low carbohydrate vs. low fat diets
 - Benefits of weight training vs. aerobics
 - How much weekly exercise is needed to achieve lasting health benefits
 - Health websites give too much information
 - Psychological disorders, such as cutting and self-harm, eating disorders, Autism, Tourette Syndrome, ADHD, ADD, Asperger's Syndrome
 - Are we taking it too far by blaming fast food restaurants for obesity? When is it individual responsibility and when is it appropriate to place blame?
 - Should companies allow employees to exercise on work time?
 - Steroids, Antibiotics, Sprays; Are food manufacturers killing us?
 - Alternative medicine
 - Alzheimer's disease
 - Anorexia
 - Causes of eating disorders? society's portrayal of women
 - Eating disorders statistics
 - Down's syndrome
 - Autism

- Birth control
- Bulimia
- Depression
- Dietary supplements
- Dyslexia
- Exercise and fitness
- Fad diets
- Fast food
- Heart disease
- In vitro fertilization
- Obesity
- Attention deficit disorder
- Investigate the history and authenticity of ADHD and ADD.
- Organic foods
- Prescription drugs
- Smoking
- Vegetarianism
- Learning disabilities
- Schizophrenia
- Coma recovery: techniques, successes, new strategies.
- What are the primary different types of cancer, and in what ways are they related?
- Investigate the success ratio of holistic and non-medical cancer treatments.
- Is Alzheimer's inevitable? Examine theories regarding its prevention.
- What forms of physical degeneracy are seen as linked to aging?
- Investigate the connections between emotional stability and physical well-being, and provide evidence as to how the two are related or otherwise.
- Investigate differences in rates of injury recovery and overcoming illness based on cultural parameters.
- Examine the modern history of viral epidemics, researching what is known about the emergence of deadly viruses.
- Examine how congenital heart disease may be treated, and how it differs from other forms of heart disease.
- Is occasional depression a natural state to an extent, and is the culture too eager to treat this as a disorder?
- Investigate mental disorders, determine biological and psychological roots, typical patterns, and potentials of treatment.
- How are compulsive behaviors determined as such? Explore examples of anal retention and expulsion, OCD, etc., as offering accepted criteria.
- Research and analyze the nature of codependency as both a normal state of relations and as an unhealthy extreme.
- Investigate the history and practice of electroshock, analyzing how and why this extreme treatment came to be widely used.
- Hoarding: symptoms and treatments, causes, types of hoarding
- Limits on extraordinary, costly treatments vs. doing everything possible
- Nutritional/alternative therapy vs. mainstream medical treatment insurance coverage for alternative treatment?
- Government grants for alternative treatment research?
- Health superiority of alternative treatments?
- Assisted suicide vs. preservation of life

- Governmental insurance requirements
- Should there be a national database to track controlled substances (i.e., Oxycodone) or should it be a state issue?
- Should parents avoid vaccinating their children?
- **Schools**
 - Should government impose restrictions on what kinds of foods can be served in school cafeterias?
 - Pros and cons of school uniforms.
 - Do children learn better in boys-only and girls-only schools?
 - Charter schools
 - Prayer in schools
- **Animals**
 - Animal rights vs. medical research
 - Should it be illegal to use animals for sports and entertainment?
 - Humane treatment of animals vs. factory farms
 - Animal welfare in slaughterhouses
 - Animal protection vs. business, employment interests
- **Athletes**
 - School prestige vs. academic standards
 - Should shoe companies be able to give away free shoes and equipment to high school athletes?
 - Should college athletes be paid?
 - Doping in sports
 - What are the effects on children whose parents push them in sports?
 - Steroids: Should they be legalized?
 - Title IX: Has it helped women's sports? Has it harmed men's sports?
 - Social effects of team sports
- **Bullying**
 - Negative texting, instant messaging, email
 - Is cyber-bullying as bad as face-to-face?
 - Kinds of punishment for cyberbullying
 - Media response
 - Should the state or federal government put laws into place to prevent bullying?
- **Environment**
 - Pollution, air, and water
 - Endangered species
 - What are the risks of climate change and global warming?
 - Rain forests
 - Acid rain
 - Alternative energy
 - Alternative fuel/hybrid vehicles
 - Conservation
 - Deforestation
 - Endangered species
 - Greenhouse effect
 - Landfills
 - Marine pollution
 - How have oil spills affected the planet and what steps are being taken to prevent them?
 - Pesticides

- Sustainability of buildings
- Recycling programs
- Cost of “green” programs
- Wind turbines
- Landfill issues
- Renewable fuels
- Pollution
- Radioactive waste disposal
- Smog
- Soil pollution
- Wildlife conservation: what efforts are being taken to protect endangered wildlife?
- Excessive burden on industries?
- Drilling for oil in Alaska in ANWR (Arctic National Wildlife Refuge)
- Gasoline consumption vs. SUV’s popularity
- Wildlife protection vs. rights of developers
- Clean air and water standards–weakened vs. strengthened
- What are the dangers of scuba diving and underwater exploration?
- Should the use of coal be subjected to stricter environmental regulations than other fuels?
- Is global warming a hoax? Is it being exaggerated?
- How much is too much noise? What, if anything, should we do to curb it?
- **Farming**
 - Organic farming vs. mainline use of chemical sprays
 - How to best protect the environment; conservation
 - Family vs. corporate farms
 - Food production costs
- **History**
 - What happened during the Salem witch trials?
 - How did trains and railroads change life in America?
 - What may have occurred during the Roswell UFO incident of 1947?
 - What Olympic events were practiced in ancient Greece?
 - How did Cleopatra come to power in Egypt what did she do during her reign?
 - What are the origins of the conflict in Darfur?
 - What was the women’s suffrage movement and how did it change America?
 - How was the assassination of Abraham Lincoln plotted and executed?
 - How did Cold War tension affect the US and the world?
 - What happened to the lost settlers at Roanoke?
 - How did Julius Caesar affect Rome?
 - How did the Freedom Riders change society?
 - What was the code of the Bushido and how did it affect samurai warriors?
 - How did Joan of Arc change history?
 - What dangers and hardships did Lewis and Clark face when exploring the Midwest?
 - How are the Great Depression and the Great Recession similar and different?
 - What was the Manhattan Project and what impact did it have on the world?
 - Why did Martin Luther protest against the Catholic Church?
 - How did the Roman Empire fall?
 - How did the black plague affect Europe?
 - How did Genghis Khan conquer Persia?
 - How did journalists influence US war efforts in Vietnam?
 - Who is Vlad the Impaler and what is his connection to Count Dracula?

- Who was a greater inventor, Leonardo di Vinci or Thomas Edison?
- What was the role of African Americans during the Revolutionary War?
- What was Britain's view of India during British rule?
- What were the factors in the China-Tibet conflict?
- Research and analyze the emergence of the Catholic Church as a political force following the collapse of the Roman Empire.
- Investigate Dr. Eileen Powers' claim that the Roman Empire was lost primarily due to an inability to perceive itself as subject to the change inevitable to all governments, or her "force of nature" theory.
- Explore and discuss the actual cooperation occurring through the centuries of Barbarian conquest of Rome.
- Examine the differences and similarities between Western and Eastern concepts and practices of kingship.
- Investigate and explain the trajectory of ALEXANDER THE GREAT's empire, with minimal emphasis on personal leadership.
- To what extent did commerce first link Eastern and Western cultures, and how did this influence early international relations?
- Research and analyze how Japan moved from a feudalistic to a modern state, and how geographic isolation played a role in the process.
- Analyze the process and effects of Romanization on the Celtic people of ancient England: benefits, conflicts, influences.
- Overview of British dominance of Ireland, Wales, and Scotland! How was this justified in each case, and what motivated the attempts over centuries of rebellion and failure?
- Investigate the known consequences of Guttenberg's printing press within the first 30 years of its invention, and only in regard to the interaction between European nations.
- Identify and analyze the point at which the Reformation became fused with European politics and nationalist agendas.
- To what extent did Henry VIII promote the Reformation, despite his vigorous persecution of heretics in England?
- Trace and discuss the uses of papal power as a military and political device in the 14th and 15th centuries.
- Research the city/state of Florence from the 13th to the 16th centuries, discussing how and why it evolved as so fiercely republican.
- Compare and contrast the Russian Czarism of Peter, Elizabeth, and Catherine with the monarchies of England and France in the 18th and 19th centuries.
- Investigate the enormous significance of Catholic Orthodoxy as the dominant faith in Russia, and its meaning and influence in an empire populated by a minimal aristocracy and predominant serfdom.
- To what extent did Philip II's religious convictions shape European policy and conflict in the 16th century?
- Trace the path leading to the convocation of the Estates in France in the late 18th century, leading to the Revolution. Assess political and social errors responsible.
- What eventually ended serfdom in Russia, and why were various attempts to end it by Czars in power uniformly unsuccessful?
- Research and report on how the industrial revolution, and the advent of the railroad, transformed England in the 19th century.
- Compare and contrast the consequences of the industrial revolutions in England and America in terms of urbanization.

- What were the circumstances leading to World War I, and how might the war have been averted?
- Assess the Cold War of the 20th century in an historical context: can any parallels be made between this conflict and other ongoing tensions between major powers in earlier centuries?
- Analyze Roosevelt's decisions in implementing the New Deal, beginning with the closing of the banks; suggest alternative strategies or reinforce the rationale of the actions.
- What architectural marvels were found in Tenochtitlan, capital of the Aztec Empire?
- What was the cultural significance of the first moon landing?
- **Poverty**
 - Food programs
 - Welfare reform
 - Governmental supplementation
 - Homeless: urban restrictions vs. needs of the destitute
 - Workable solutions?
- **Immigration**
 - Realistic limits vs. openness toward people in need
 - English as official language vs. respect for diversity
 - Should illegal immigrants be made legal citizens?
 - Access to public school and public programs for immigrants
 - Policing borders—workable solutions?
 - Employment and/or taxation for Illegal Aliens
- **Middle East**
 - International trade
 - Arms control
 - Democratization
 - “Shock and awe”
 - U.S. occupation vs. liberation
 - Iraqi run vs. U.S. puppet state
 - Oil and Gas prices—Control of resources
 - Effective self-government
 - War on Terror
- **Natural Disasters**
 - Governmental support
 - Preparedness
 - School emergency plans
 - Community warning systems
 - Damage costs
- **Technology**
 - How is text messaging affecting teen literacy?
 - Cell Phones: How have they changed us socially?
 - Does the Information Age mean we are losing important historical information?
- **What? Why? How?**
 - Why do we sleep?
 - How do GPS systems work?
 - Who was the first person to reach the North Pole?
 - Did anybody ever escape Alcatraz?
 - What was life like for a gladiator?
 - Are there any effective means of repelling insects?
 - How is bulletproof clothing made?

- How was the skateboard invented and how has it changed over the years?
- What is life like inside of a beehive?
- Where did hip hop originate and who were its founders?
- What makes the platypus a unique and interesting mammal?
- What is daily life like for a Buddhist monk?
- How did gunpowder change warfare?
- How were cats and dogs domesticated and for what purposes?
- What do historians know about ninjas?
- Are humans still evolving?
- What is the curse of the pharaohs?
- Why was Socrates executed?
- How did ancient sailors navigate the globe?
- How are black holes formed?
- How do submarines work?
- Do lie detector tests accurately determine truthful statements?
- How does a hybrid car save energy?
- What ingredients can be found inside of a hotdog?
- How does a shark hunt?
- How does the human brain store and retrieve memories?
- How does stealth technology shield aircraft from radar?
- What causes tornados?
- How does night vision work?
- What causes desert mirages and how do they affect wanderers?
- What are sinkholes and how are they formed?
- What are the major theories explaining the disappearance of the dinosaurs?
- **Science**
 - Forensic science technology
 - What are the current capabilities and future goals of genetic engineers?
 - What obstacles faced scientists in breaking the sound barrier?
 - What is alchemy and how has it been attempted?
 - Stem cell research
- **Energy**
 - What technologies are available to homeowners to help them conserve energy?
 - Nuclear energy
 - Clean energy resources
 - Wind energy's wind energy really that cheap? Is it effective? Is it practical?
 - What are the dangers and hazards of using nuclear power?
- **Media**
 - Should newspaper reporters be required to reveal their sources?
 - Does the media (both print and broadcast) report fairly? Does it ever cross the line between reporting the news and creating the news?
 - Does news coverage favor the majority?
 - What steps are involved in creating a movie or television show?
 - How have the film and music industries dealt with piracy?
 - Media bias
 - Media conglomerates/ownership
 - Minorities in mass media
 - Portrayal of women
 - Reality television

- Talk radio
- Television violence
- Media portrayals
- Sensationalized media
- Examine the issues of responsibility in pharmaceutical companies' promotion of drugs in the media.
- **Relationships**
 - Divorce rates
 - Family relationships
 - Family values
 - Race relations
 - Marriage and Divorce
 - A view of home life and its effect on child development
- **Women**
 - Explain the glass ceiling
 - Obstacles to women running for political office?
 - Should women be priests, pastors, ministers, and rabbis?
 - What differences, if any, are there in children who are raised by stay-at-home moms and working moms? Does society today still discriminate against working mothers who wish to have flexible work schedules?
 - Should stay-at-home moms get a salary from the government?
- **Population Explosion**
 - How serious? Causes? Workable solutions?
 - Funding abortion as a form of birth control in third world countries?
 - What would happen globally if the demand for natural resources is greater than the supply?
- **Politics**
 - Politician's right to privacy vs. the public's right to know
 - Campaign financing reform vs. reform is unworkable
 - Amount of money going into presidential campaigns
 - Political debates throughout history
 - Third-party candidates at presidential debates
- **Drugs**
 - Punishment vs. treatment
 - Family reactions
 - Social acceptance
 - Community safety vs. legalization
 - Drug legalization
 - Programs: Do they work?
 - Should the federal government legalize the use of marijuana?
 - Cocaine
 - Heroin
 - Nicotine
 - Doping in sports
- **Discrimination**
 - Protection of victims vs. freedom of speech/rights of the accused
 - How to improve race relations
 - Profiling
 - Reverse discrimination
 - Women still earn only 75 cents for every \$1 a man earns—Explain.

- Discrimination in education
- Discrimination in the workplace—analyzing issues for today’s corporations
- Gender discrimination
- Interracial marriage

8th Grade- Persuasive

1. Should students be allowed to have cell phones in school?
2. Should college athletes be paid for playing?
3. Should state colleges be free to attend for in-state residents?
4. Should all American citizens have to complete a year of community service?
5. Should marijuana be legal for medicinal purposes?
6. Should the driving age be raised to twenty-one?
7. Should students be paid for having good grades?
8. Should illegal immigrants be allowed to get driver's licenses?
9. Should students' textbooks be replaced by notebook computers?
10. Should students have to pass a basic skills test to graduate high school?
11. Should schools raise money by selling candy and sugary soft drinks to students?
12. Should students' grades in gym affect their grade point averages?
13. Should girls be allowed to play on boy's sports teams?
14. Should teens be able to buy violent video games?
15. Should boys and girls be in separate classes?
16. Should our country have a universal health care program?
17. Should immigration laws be reformed?
18. Should people who download music and movies illegally be punished?
19. Should school athletes have to be on the honor roll to play in games?
20. Should cities offer free public Wi-Fi?
21. Should the government place a tax on junk food and fatty snacks?
22. Should people be allowed to keep exotic animals like chimpanzees or tigers?
23. Should the city offer a bike-sharing program?
24. Should there be an ordinance citing people who fail to recycle \$50?
25. Should people have to get a license to become parents?
26. Should there be tougher federal restrictions for content on the Internet?
27. Should students who commit cyberbullying be suspended from school?
28. Should students be allowed to eat during class?
29. Should more be done to protect and preserve endangered animals?
30. Should the death penalty be used to punish violent criminals?
31. Should schools start later in the morning?
32. Should the USA end overseas military operations?
33. Should politicians be allowed to accept campaign contributions from corporate lobbyists?
34. Should people with terminal illnesses have the right to doctor assisted suicides? (Euthanasia)
35. Should stem cell researchers be able to use the stem cells from aborted babies to cure diseases?
36. Should professional athletes have to take drug tests?
37. Should high school students have to complete community service hours to graduate?
38. Should state tests be given in other languages for ESL students?

39. Should scientists be allowed to test products intended for human use on animals?
40. Should unhealthy fast food products be sold with a warning label?
41. Should everyone under the age of 17 have a 9:00 PM curfew?
42. Should schools with low scores on standardized tests be closed?
43. Should students as young as fourteen be allowed to hold jobs?
44. Should people who are caught driving drunk lose their licenses for a year?
45. Should students who fail their classes be retained and have to repeat the grade?
46. Should large businesses and corporations be required to employ a number of minorities proportionate to the population?
47. Should children who commit violent crimes be tried as adults?
48. Should the government be allowed to detain suspected terrorists without trial?
49. Should the government censor internet content deemed inappropriate?
50. Should school sports be mandatory?
51. Should school be year round with more breaks to improve education?