

Assignment: This portfolio assignment will be a three part FIRST PERSON HISTORY JOURNAL paper which will be approximately 1.5 to 2 pages written in length (double spaced, size 12 font, one inch margins -- it may be longer, depending on how much effort you put in) plus appropriate visual content. In other words, each entry will be approximately 1/2 page long (1 to 2 paragraphs)

Each journal entry must contain at least three accurate textbook based historical details.

Entry #1:

Time Machine WARP...WARP...WARP...WARP...BOOOOM!!! -- First stop is somewhere in the South on April 10th, 1865, the day after General Lee has surrendered to General Grant and ended the American Civil War.

You are a freedman on a plantation (make your own identify...what is your name?, how old are you and how long were you enslaved?...where is the plantation located?...how many slaves on this plantation?...etc.) who has just had the Emancipation Proclamation read to him by a Union army officer. In this journal entry, describe how freedom feels. Is it all joy, or do you feel fear or uncertainties as well? What are your dreams for the future? Where do you see yourself ten years from now? What types of things do you feel need to be done to help freedmen such as yourself make your transition to freedom a successful one?

Entry #2:

Time Machine WARP...WARP...WARP...WARP...SMACK!!! -- Second stop early in 1869 and the 15th Amendment to the Constitution has just been passed. It is the "high water mark" for Radical Reconstruction.

Reflect on the first four years of Reconstruction and its impact on you. Where are you now? How do you feel about the status of the freedmen and the way that African-Americans are being treated at this point in time? Did you vote in the election of 1868? From your perspective, what good things have happened to you and your race since the end of the Civil War? Are there any negatives or things that should have been done for the freedmen but were not?

Entry #3

Time Machine WARP...WARP...WARP...WARP...SHAZAMM!!! -- Third and final stop in 1883 as "The Long Night" has begun and most of your dreams of 1865 have been shattered.

Reflect on what went wrong and how, from your perspective, Reconstruction ended in tragic failure for you and the freedmen as a whole. What people or groups were at fault and why was "the cause" abandoned? Where are you now and what obstacles to being a truly "free man" now stand in your way? Could things get any worse in the future? How do you (and your family?) intend to cope with conditions during "the long night"?

USE YOUR TEXTBOOK TO PROVIDE GOOD, ACCURATE HISTORICAL DETAILS TO YOUR WRITING. FOR EXAMPLE, IN ENTRY #3, MAYBE YOU MENTION THE AMNESTY ACT OF 1872 BY STATING,

"I JUST COULDN'T UNDERSTAND HOW A REPUBLICAN LIKE GRANT, A MAN I VOTED TO BE PRESIDENT, COULD LET THOSE HIGH RANKING CONFEDERATES BE PARDONED -- ONCE A TRAITOR, ALWAYS A TRAITOR IN MY BOOK! -- THE PRESIDENT REALLY LET US FREEDMEN DOWN."

MAKE SURE TO INCLUDE GOOD VISUAL CONTENT IN YOUR PORTFOLIO. FOR INSTANCE, IN JOURNAL ENTRY #1, IF YOU ARE TALKING ABOUT GOING TO SCHOOL FOR THE FIRST TIME AS THE FULFILLMENT OF YOUR DREAMS, THE PHOTO ON PAGE 602 OF YOUR TEXT WOULD BE APPROPRIATE TO INCLUDE. OBVIOUSLY NON-TEXT BASED VISUALS ARE ENCOURAGED!

YOU WILL BE EVALUATED BASED ON: FOLLOWING ALL DIRECTIONS, YOUR CREATIVITY, ACCURACY OF HISTORICAL CONTENT, INCLUSION OF APPROPRIATE VISUALS (as always, at least 3!).