Civil War Research Topics

**Purpose**: Find out something interesting about the Civil War

**Directions**: Choose one of the following topics to research. Once you’ve read about it, make a claim about that topic, then support it with specific evidence you learned from various articles you read.

**Proper Format:** Times New Roman, 12 pt font, 1 inch margins, double spaced (with no extra spaces between paragraphs)

**Proper layout:**

Your Name

Your Topic

Claim (one strong statement about your topic): Abraham Lincoln saved the United States from splitting into two separate nations.

Evidence (multiple paragraphs; at least 500 words): (ex. Describe the battle thoroughly - including at minimum the 5 Ws – who, what, when, why, where – and any other additional information you find interesting, including causes and effects. Write in chronological order. Then, describe its impact. Why was it important? Who was each leader, what strategies did they use? What beliefs did they hold?)

Citations:

Please include at least **two** citations in MLA format. Please use scholarly sources (.org, .gov, .edu or anything you find in the ESCC databases). Wikipedia is not acceptable even though it is a .org.

**Submission:**

Please upload your research in Canvas through Turnitin by clicking on the “American Revolution Exploratory Topics” assignment and clicking “Submit Assignment.” You may submit as a Google Doc or a Word Doc, but not as a text entry.

Academic grammar and spelling are expected. Please read over your work before submitting. Consider the following (same rules from previous revision):

* 1. Eliminate all helping verbs, also known as be verbs. Helping verbs are listed on the homepage of [www.klacks.weebly.com](http://www.klacks.weebly.com) if you need to reference them. There is also an active verb list that might help you replace them with better words.
	2. Eliminate all instances where you end a sentence or phrase with a preposition (of, at, between, for, etc.)
	3. Write out all numbers, except for years.
	4. Change the following words: very, really, huge, great.
	5. Eliminate contractions (like can’t).
	6. Make sure you are using commas correctly.
	7. Make sure you are using capitalization correctly. **Only** the first word of each sentence and proper nouns should be capitalized (ex. Battle of Antietam, Robert E. Lee, Richmond).
	8. Eliminate any pronouns that do not directly agree with a subject, like this, these, and those.
	9. Make sure your sources are in proper MLA format, including the use of hanging indent.
	10. Make sure your formatting is correct based on the original assignment - Times New Roman, 12 pt font, double-spaced.
	11. Please indent at the beginning of each paragraph (click tab once).
	12. Make sure you have one or two spaces after each period, or before the beginning of the next sentence. Choose one or two and be consistent throughout your paper.

Please make sure your writing is your work. Any instance of plagiarism will result in the grade of a zero.

* Your unoriginality score must be less than 30%.
* You may not have any instances of seven (7) or more words of consecutive unoriginal text.

I encourage you to check your work using a free grammar and plagiarism checker.

**Due Date: December 10th**

**Grade: Writing Assignment**

**Possible topics:**

1. Abraham Lincoln
2. George McClellan
3. Ulysses S. Grant
4. William Tecumseh Sherman
5. Robert E. Lee
6. Thomas Jonathan “Stonewall” Jackson
7. Fort Sumter
8. Battle of Bull Run (1st and 2nd)
9. USS Monitor vs. CSS Virginia (aka Merrimack)
10. Battle of Shiloh
11. Battle of Antietam
12. Siege of Vicksburg
13. Battle of Gettysburg
14. Sherman’s March to Sea
15. Siege of Petersburg
16. Anaconda Plan
17. New military technologies (born in Civil War)
18. 54th Massachusetts
19. NYC Draft Riots
20. Lincoln’s Assassination