Meeting of the Minds: Revolutionary Leaders

“Revolutions are the locomotives of history.”
- Karl Marx

As part of our unit on nationalistic revolutions after The Great War we will be looking closely at the leaders who played critical roles in what are now 3 of the most powerful countries in the world. To that end, we will be having a meeting of the minds with the leaders. At this meeting you will each play the role of a leader: Joseph Stalin, Mao Zedong or Mohandas Gandhi. Read below for more information:

**Goal:** You are to prepare yourself for a meeting with a few other great leaders – Stalin, Mao, and Gandhi. You will be playing the role of one of these leaders, and will be participating in a discussion with the other two. To prepare you must write a background/biography of yourself and your accomplishments and prepare 3 questions (and their answers) for each of the other guests.

**Role:** You are one of the great leaders. You will be meeting with other leaders who used various methods to lead their nations into the modern era. This is your chance to pick the brain of other men, and to prove that you are a great leader who belongs on the list of the most influential leaders in history.

**Audience:** You are at a conference, so you will write a biography of yourself for the audience members at this great meeting. You are writing the questions (and their answers) for yourself – you want to ask thoughtful and challenging questions that dig deep into the motivations and thoughts of the other leaders.

**Situation:** You are at a conference on leadership sponsored by the United Nations. People will come from all over the world to hear you speak! You will be with other leaders who have very different methods so you should not only give a brief bio but you should plan to challenge them with your questions and be prepared to defend your methods.

**Product, Performance, Purpose:** Written preparation: You will be researching and preparing a background about yourself for the conference. Your background should include biographical information but focus on your achievements as a leader. In short, what did he do for his nation? Your background should be 4-5 pages long (typed, double spaced, MLA format, with citations, THIRD PERSON). Anything after 5 pages will NOT be read.

Oral preparation: You will give a 1 minute background about the figure you represent (rehearse and use all your time). You should make a nameplate for yourself and type up a 1 page “overview” of who you are, where you come from and why you’re important (follow the one pager format). After the background presentations you will question each other about anything you would like to know about each other’s doctrines. You should prepare 3 questions and their answers for each of the other leaders. The questions should be higher order, that is, they should challenge the other leaders about their methods, results, motivations, etc. Each answer should be approximately one paragraph (5 sentences) in length. You must include a works cited. Don’t be afraid to get into arguments with each other over doctrine. Some of you will find yourself on completely opposite sides!

**Standards for success:** See attached rubric

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**Plagiarism** – VERY SERIOUS! Absolutely no plagiarism is acceptable in any of the forms. We will look at what plagiarism is and what it is not. You are responsible and will be held responsible for all acts of plagiarism
I. Lay the Foundations
   A. Encyclopedia Britannica
      1. Find the article for your revolutionary on Encyclopedia Britannica OR in the World Book
         a. These will be good overviews of your person’s life and career. You may need to find more
            sources later, but first start by looking for some very general information
      2. Create an entry in your EasyBib account
      3. Take notes on your person from the encyclopedia IN YOUR OWN
         WORDS.
         a. Be sure to write the source on the notecard
   B. What are your person’s biggest accomplishments?
      1. You know he led a country. What else did he do?

II. Research – Your character
   A. Find information about your person’s background
      1. Be sure you put each source you find in your works cited on EasyBib
      2. For each piece of information, create a new notecard
         a. Write down the source you got it from on the notecard
      3. Put information on the notecard IN YOUR OWN WORDS
         a. Do NOT simply cut and paste! This is an easy way to avoid plagiarism!
      3. If you find a particularly good, succinct quote you may write it word for
         word but be sure to cite it properly!
   B. As you research you may find that you need to find additional sources to get a
      better picture of who your person was. Be sure to put everything on your
      works cited

III. Write an outline for your background section
   A. Use the basic outline below but fill in the details. Be sure to cite everything!

   Background Outline
   I. Personal Life – childhood, family, education
   II. Rise to power – how they came to be the leader in their country
   III. Accomplishments – what were their major accomplishments? What did he
        do for his country?
   IV. Legacy – how is he remembered today? Do people today think he was a
       hero or a tyrant? Use specific evidence!
IV. Prepare your Questions

A. In order to prepare for your discussion with the other leaders you must know something about them. Think of questions you want to ask them about their philosophies, motivations, policies, etc.

1. You might be prepared to have an opinion and ask others about questions such as:
   - The role of government in everyday lives
   - What is the ideal form of government?
   - When is the use of force justified?
   - What is the goal of a revolution?
   - What constitutes a good leader?
   - To what extent should society control an individual?
   - What is more important – the individual or society?
   - What motivates people?

B. Once you create 3 questions for each of the other leaders you should write the answers to the questions

1. Answers should be at least 5 sentences in length!

C. You will have a total of 6 questions (3 for each of the other people)

VI. Write your rough draft for both the background AND the questions

A. You should write the background paper in the 3rd person – it should include his whole life (including death)

B. Questions should be written in first person

   Example: (Q) Mr. Gandhi, what is the greatest nation on earth? (A) Why, I believe India of course!

C. Papers must be in MLA format
   1. Times New Roman 12 pt. font
   2. 1” margins

D. Double spaced

E. Header – Upper right corner. Your last name and page number

F. PARENTHETICAL CITATIONS are required! Without them I will not accept your paper.

VII. Following peer editing, make edits and prepare for your meeting of the minds

VIII. Fill out your self evaluation – the rubric given to you in class. Fill it out honestly!
To successfully complete this project, your paper must include the following items. Failure to include these items may result in a loss of points, up to the number of points listed with each item.

You are expected to do outside research for this paper. You MUST include a works cited and cite your sources according to MLA citation standards.

- **Written paper**
  - Your background paper should be more than 3 but *no more than 4 pages long*.
  - 3 questions and their answers for each other participant (6 total)
  - You should use MLA format.
  - Every research paper must have quotes and citations, but please beware of “Monster Quotes”. These will actually take away from your grade.
  - Please do not put your paper in a cover, they are pretty, but I don’t want them.
  - The format of the paper should be Times New Roman, 12-point font with 1” margins. Plagiarism will not be tolerated – see handbook.

- Five (5) outside sources cited in your paper (not including textbook), with no more than TWO websites (remember no .com or Wikipedia sites) (5 points per source)

- **Works Cited & Parenthetical Citations - *** NO PAPER WILL BE ACCEPTED WITHOUT A WORKS CITED***

- **Self Assessment (Rubric)** – you must fill out the attached rubric before turning it in (not when I am collecting them!) (5 points)

### Grading

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Task</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.) Outline – typed, 2-3 pages long, 1.5 spaced</td>
<td>25</td>
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<tr>
<td>2.) Rough Draft – typed, double spaced, MLA format</td>
<td>25</td>
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<td>3.) Final Paper</td>
<td>165</td>
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<td>4.) Oral participation</td>
<td>65</td>
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<td>Total Points Possible:</td>
<td>280</td>
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**Due Dates:**

- **Paper Outline** – You must turn in an outline of your background in standard outline format. The outline should be 2-3 pages long (1.5 spaced). Shared via Google Docs on: _______________________. (25 points)

- **Rough Draft** – It is important to get your ideas down on paper and to review you paper before handing it in. We will spend a day peer editing our research papers. If you do not have a rough draft by this day you will lose significant points. Due _______________________. (25 points)

- **Final Paper** – If you would like me to take a look at your research paper before you submit it, please make an appointment before the due date. Your final draft of your research paper will be due in class on _______________________. (165 points)

  * You will lose points for turning in the above assignments late! *

Revolutionary Research Paper 2015-16
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Criteria</th>
<th>60</th>
<th>54</th>
<th>48</th>
<th>42</th>
<th>35</th>
<th>Comments</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Background research scope / comprehensiveness</td>
<td>Student clearly demonstrates comprehensive, in-depth research of leader’s life</td>
<td>Student demonstrates mostly comprehensive, in-depth research of leader’s life</td>
<td>Student demonstrates some research of assigned leader’s life</td>
<td>Student demonstrates little research of assigned leader’s life and/or omits significant events</td>
<td>Student presents no research of assigned leader’s life and/or omits significant events</td>
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<tr>
<td>Depth of Analysis of Accomplishments (Why are you a good leader?)</td>
<td>Student demonstrates an excellent depth of analysis of career and includes a wide variety of evidence</td>
<td>Student demonstrates a good depth of analysis of career and includes a variety of evidence</td>
<td>Student demonstrates some depth of analysis of career and includes a small variety of evidence</td>
<td>Student demonstrates little depth of analysis of career and includes little variety of evidence</td>
<td>Student does not demonstrate analysis of career and/or does not include a variety of evidence</td>
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<tr>
<td>Questions</td>
<td>Student presents 6 excellent questions and in-depth answers</td>
<td>Student presents 6 good questions and in-depth answers</td>
<td>Student presents 6 questions and adequate answers</td>
<td>Student presents 6 questions with little / no answers</td>
<td>Student does not present all required questions and/or answers</td>
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<tr>
<td>Organization and Focus</td>
<td>Paper is clear, logical and organized with effective transitions and very clear focus.</td>
<td>Paper is mostly organized but not consistently; some transitions are missing and focus is somewhat clear.</td>
<td>Paper is somewhat organized but is missing transitions and/or has no clear focus.</td>
<td>Paper is somewhat unorganized and missing most transitions; focus is unclear.</td>
<td>Paper is not organized, is missing all transitions and has no focus.</td>
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<td>Mechanics</td>
<td>Spelling, punctuation and grammar are all excellent</td>
<td>Spelling, punctuation and grammar are good</td>
<td>Spelling, punctuation and grammar are adequate</td>
<td>Spelling, punctuation and grammar are poor</td>
<td>Spelling, punctuation and grammar hinder the communication or otherwise make it unclear</td>
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<td><strong>Bio Presentation</strong></td>
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<td>Student presents bio concisely with excellent overview of life</td>
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<td>Students presents bio with good overview of life</td>
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<td>Student presents bio with little information</td>
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<td><strong>Participation</strong></td>
<td>50</td>
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<td>40</td>
<td>35</td>
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<td>Student presents bio with little information</td>
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<td>Student participates with excellent comments and questions</td>
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<td>Students participates with simple comments and questions</td>
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<td>Student participates with few or inadequate comments and questions</td>
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<td>Student participates minimally</td>
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**Checklist:**

- 5 sources (5 points per source)  
- Works Cited  
- Citations (10 points)  
- Self-Assessment (5 points)

**Total Written:** _______________/180

**Total Oral:** _______________/65

**Total:** _______________/245