

Bibliographies Made Easy!

Bibliographies are required for all entries, but they can be one of the most frustrating and difficult parts of the History Day process. With the invention of easy to use websites, the process has been made far less painful. Below are tips to make the process easier.

Bibliography Dos and Don'ts

DO:

- Keep track of all of your sources as you go, and note what you used them for.
- Write down all required information for each source. The information is slightly different for different types of sources.
- Group your sources into different sections: Primary Sources and Secondary Sources. Keep a separate section for images and pictures.
- Use annotations wisely. Make sure to note sources that were extremely helpful. This is also your opportunity to explain less well known sources, especially websites.
- Make sure your websites are credible sources of information. Check the homepage to find the author or producer.
- Remember your bibliography is a reflection of the depth of your research, making it a crucial part of your project.

DON'TS:

- Cite Google, Ask or Wikipedia as sources. These are search engines. It would be like citing the library where you found a book as the author.
- Put your entire bibliography on your exhibit or documentary
- Wait until the last minute. Bibliographies can be time-consuming, detailed work. It is much easier to complete citations for each source as you go along.
- Forget to annotate. Make sure to include what type of source it is and what information you found in the source. Also explain how it helped you understand your topic better.
- Number your sources. This may help you keep track of your information but it is unnecessary for the bibliography.

Books:

Last Name, First Name. Book Title. Ed. Vol. City Published: Publisher, Year.

Newspaper Article:

Last Name, First Name. "Article Title." Newspaper Name Day, Month, Year, Edition, Section: page number(s).

Encyclopedia (print):

Last Name, First Name, "Article Title." Name of Encyclopedia. Ed. Year.

Websites:

Last Name, First Name. "Page Title." Name of Website. Day, Month, Year (either last updated or published). URL. Date Accessed.

Where to go for more information about bibliographies:

Easy Bib: www.easybib.com

National History Day Website: <http://nhd.org/ConductingResearch.htm#annobibs>