

Process Paper

Why we chose this topic:

We chose Nelson Mandela as our topic when we read about his death a little over a year ago. By reading about his legacy, we were deeply moved by his leadership. This year, when asked to come up with a topic for National History Day, we decided that this would be a great chance to let others know about Nelson Mandela's leadership and his ongoing legacy.

How we conducted our research:

First, we researched how Nelson Mandela showed leadership and legacy. Then, we looked into how he made an impact economically, socially, culturally, politically, and how there was change over time and continuity in his life or during his time period. Since we do not live very close to South Africa, we thought of different ways we could still talk about Nelson Mandela through primary sources. We found many useful books, including many books written by Mandela himself. We also found many useful websites, some of which were websites of foundations that he founded. We took many useful notes from these sources, and also primary source quotes. We interviewed a professor who lives in South Africa after the apartheid era named Jasper Rees. We received his ideas and opinions on apartheid, as well as his opinions on Mandela's impact and leadership.

How we created and developed our website:

We selected this presentation category, group website, because we felt that this would be the best way to share Mandela's story effectively. Also, since we had three group members, we felt a website would be most convenient and would best fit our abilities. After deciding on creating a website, we started looking at our notes and integrating them into the foundation of our website. After putting in the information from our notes, we realized that we needed more media and visuals. When looking for media and quotes, we realized that this part was relatively simple because there were many different perspectives on Mandela.

How our project relates to the NHD theme:

Our project on Nelson Mandela relates to this year's NHD theme in many ways. Through many years of riots and imprisonment, Mandela stood strong for all Africans and eventually became the president. Under his leadership, apartheid was abolished, although some segregation continues to this day. His leadership is known throughout the world, and he has a lasting legacy in the eyes of many South Africans, as well as others around the world.

Word Count: 408