

Time Travel to Mesopotamia Project Rubric (8th Grade)

Project Components: Slide presentation + Travel brochure

Assignment: You are a time traveler visiting **at least three ancient Mesopotamian cities**.

Create a presentation and brochure describing my “trip,” including what I will see, who I will meet, and what I will do and eat.

Category	Exemplary (A) 4 pts	Proficient (B) 3 pts	Developing (C) 2 pts	Beginning (D/F) 1 pt
Historical Accuracy & Content	Includes detailed, accurate information about at least 3 Mesopotamian cities (e.g. Ur, Babylon, Nineveh). Facts about government, religion, economy, geography, and culture are historically correct and well explained.	Includes accurate information about 3 cities but with minor errors or missing one area (e.g. religion or economy).	Includes 2–3 cities with some inaccuracies or limited detail.	Includes fewer than 2 cities or mostly inaccurate/unclear information.
Understanding of Mesopotamian Civilization	Shows deep understanding of Mesopotamian life —how people lived, worked, traded, worshiped, and ruled. Connects ideas between cities and civilizations.	Shows clear understanding of daily life and major features, but lacks deeper connections or comparisons.	Shows partial understanding—some facts without clear explanation or context.	Minimal understanding of Mesopotamian civilization.
Creativity & Originality	Presentation and brochure are highly imaginative , presenting time travel with creative storytelling, visuals, and perspective. Feels immersive and engaging.	Creative concept with clear effort to make it engaging.	Some creativity shown, but presentation feels rushed or unoriginal.	Minimal creativity or originality. Little evidence of effort to engage the audience.
Visual Design & Organization	Slides and brochure are well-organized, visually appealing , and easy to read. Layout, color, and	Organization and visuals are clear but could be improved. Minor	Somewhat disorganized or hard to follow. Visuals or text are	Poor organization; visuals missing or confusing.

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Use of Sources & Accuracy of Details	<p>images enhance the presentation.</p> <p>At least 3 credible sources used (textbook, class materials, reliable websites). All facts are accurate and cited correctly (simple bibliography or slide).</p>	<p>clutter or inconsistencies.</p> <p>2–3 sources used with mostly accurate details. Minor citation issues.</p>	<p>unclear or mismatched.</p> <p>1–2 sources with noticeable inaccuracies or unclear citations.</p>	<p>No clear sources or many inaccurate details.</p>
Brochure Component	<p>Brochure looks authentic (like a travel pamphlet). Includes highlights for each city: attractions, “things to do,” cultural tips, and visuals. Creative time-travel theme is clear.</p>	<p>Brochure includes info for all cities but lacks some detail or design appeal.</p>	<p>Brochure includes basic info but lacks clear organization or appeal.</p>	<p>Brochure incomplete, unclear, or missing.</p>
Presentation Skills	<p>Presenter speaks clearly, confidently, and with enthusiasm. Uses visuals effectively; engages audience with storytelling.</p>	<p>Presenter is clear and organized but less engaging or reliant on notes.</p>	<p>Presenter reads too much from slides; limited eye contact or enthusiasm.</p>	<p>Presentation unclear or incomplete. Hard to hear or follow.</p>