ASSESSMENT TASK

Task Name: Ancient China Inventions Task

Subject: Year 7 Humanities

Domain: Humanities

Year Level: 7

Statement of Inquiry: Events and ideas from past societies have significance in the modern world

Global Context: Orientation in space and time

ATL Skills Focus: Research Skills

Due Date: Friday June 8

Task

You have been asked by the World History Association to inform a selection panel about the impact of an Ancient Chinese invention.

You will be allocated one of the following inventions:

Paper, printing, decimal system, wheelbarrow, seismograph, matches, gunpowder, parachute, kung fu/wushu, cast iron, ink, helicopter rotor and propeller, horse collar, kite, rocket, compass, printed book, abacus, cannon, acupuncture, spinning wheel, iron ploughshare, silk

You have the option of creating a

1. persuasive speech (written, not spoken) OR

2. a persuasive letter

Members of the association will be asked to vote after the selection panel identifies three finalists. The speech or letter with the most votes will receive a prize from the World History Association.

Your persuasive speech or letter should be 400-500 words in length and should contain the following information:

a. Describe when the invention was first discovered/created.

b. Identify the Emperor who was in power at the time of discovery/creation.

c. Explain how it came to be made and how it worked.
d. Describe the problem the invention aimed to solve.

e. Explain the effect your invention had/has on the lives of ordinary people.

f. Describe how the invention is used today. Has the invention changed in appearance or use since its invention? Explain your answer.

Throughout your persuasive speech or persuasive letter you should consistently justify the significance of the invention you have been allocated.

Describe: Give a detailed account or picture of a situation, event, pattern or process

Identify: Provide an answer from a number of possibilities. Recognize and state briefly a distinguishing fact or feature.

Explain: Give a detailed account including reasons or causes

Justify: Give valid reasons or evidence to support an answer or conclusion

Steps to get started:

1. Conduct research and complete the lotus chart provided. We will begin this in class but you will also need to work on this as a homework exercise.

2. Once you have completed your research we will develop a criteria in order to evaluate the significance of your allocated invention. We will complete this step as a class.

3. Triad discussions in class justifying the significance of your allocated invention.

4. Begin writing draft.

5. Remember to keep a record of the resources you use throughout the task. A correctly referenced bibliography (Harvard style) should be submitted alongside your persuasive speech or letter.

Academic Honesty

Students are reminded that all work submitted must be their own and each use of the words, work or ideas of another person, whether written, oral or visual, (hard copy and/or electronic materials) must be acknowledged in the body of their work and the bibliography.

Please refer to the Rubric for this assessment task for information regarding assessment criteria and task specific clarification.