Investigative Research Assignment

For this essay, you are telling a story about a photograph that you found but don't know much about. Your story should be fictional, but it should also include some information that gathered through investigative research. Your job now is to find out more details about the photograph's time period, location, activity, etc. There are many ways to do research including field research, interviewing, searching for historical and location information on the internet, or using the City Tech library.

Pick one type of research and do it for homework. The following worksheet provides guidelines for the different forms of research. You must choose the type of research you will do, carefully follow the guidelines below, and document your work according to the instructions.

Field Research

Go to a location that will give you more information about the photograph and take detailed observation notes in a two-column format. To do this, take a piece of paper and fold it in half vertically. On the left side of the paper write down your observations of the location (remember to observe using all five senses). On the right side of the paper, write down your thoughts, reflections, and reactions to those observations. You should **completely fill at least one side of your notebook paper with detailed notes.**

Interview

Interview someone who can give you more information about your photograph. To prepare for your interview, you must draft in advance at least 10 thoughtful questions to ask them. During the interview, you must take detailed notes of the interviewee's responses. **You will turn in a paper with the person's name, the questions you asked them (10 minimum), and their responses.**

Internet Research

If you choose to use the internet to research your photograph, you may **only use sites that have a .org or .gov address** to ensure that they are authoritative. Find at least one .org or .gov website that has useful information, read it, and take careful notes. You will turn in a paper with **the name of the website, its URL, at least one full page of detailed notes, and a short paragraph explaining how you will use the information in your essay.**

City Tech Library/Library Database

Find at least one book or article using the library or library database. Print the article/chapter or photocopy the portion of the book you will read. Read and annotate the information. You will **turn in the annotated article and a short paragraph explaining how you will use the information in your essay.**

To access the library database:

1. Activate your City Tech ID in the library at the Circulation Desk
2. Go to: https://library.citytech.cuny.edu/
3. Click on "Find"
4. Click on "Articles"
5. Click on "General"
6. Click on "Academic Search Complete (EBSCO)" or you may use another database
7. If you are off campus, it will ask you for your library barcode. This is at the bottom of your ID.
8. Type in 2-3 key words in the three boxes and click "Search"
9. Look through the results. If none of the results seems right, go back and try different combinations of key words.
10. Keep doing this until you find some articles that seem useful for your topic.
11. Click on an article title that seems useful.
12. Read the abstract and decide whether you think it is relevant to your topic.
13. If it is relevant, you can click "print," you can it download it to a flash drive or to your home computer by clicking "PDF Full Text," or you can email it to yourself by clicking "email."
14. You should also click "Cite" and scroll down to "MLA" to see the citation information for the article. Copy and paste that citation to a document or take a picture of it for later use.
15. Email or save your articles.