

Theme Park Project—US History

At last, a quality theme park for all of those avid US History enthusiasts is about to open its door to the public. For many years people from across the country have longed for a place that they could go to enjoy some fun in the sun and some good old fashion United States History! Finally, the theme park of their dreams is about to open, and you will be its creator!

Directions: Complete the parts below to create your own U.S. History theme park!

1) Give your United States History theme park a catchy name!

Most theme parks out there usually have some sort of catchy name such as: Six Flags, Cedar Point, Busch Gardens, Coney Island, etc. Your first task in this assignment is to give your theme park a catchy name that sets your park apart from all the others. For this section you will want to be as creative as possible. Remember, your goal is to attract avid American History enthusiasts and their money to your park and not your competitors' theme parks.

2) Create **FIVE** parts or sections within your United States History theme park.

Theme parks across the country are usually divided into smaller parts or sections within the park such as: "Frontier Land", "Kiddie Park", "Water Parks", etc. Using the list of topics discussed this year below; create FIVE such areas within your theme park. Once again, remember to be as creative as possible when selecting names for each section.

Parts or sections of your park should deal with the following topics discussed this year in class:

1. The Civil War
2. Reconstruction
3. Westward
4. American Industrialization / The Gilded Age
5. Populism
6. Progressivism
7. American as a World Power (Imperialism)
8. WWI
8. The Great Depression & The New Deal
9. WWII
10. The Cold War
11. The Civil Rights Movement

3) Create **TWO** enjoyable United States History rides or attractions **per section** of your park.

The reason most visitors come to a theme park is to enjoy the many rides and attractions they have to offer. Now that your theme park has five creative sections, for EACH section create TWO rides that can be found within EACH section. These rides should have some historical significance and should also be very creative. (For example: if one of the sections of my park dealt with the "Cold War" I may have a roller coaster entitled "The Cuban Missile Crisis" or the The Red Scare!) You will want to research events and people within each of the time periods listed above in order to come up with specific attractions. Each ride should include a description of at least ONE paragraph that explains what the ride is and why it fits into that section of your park historically. It would not be enough to merely name the ride; you must also give some specific historical information about the event or individual. (Review your notes or old study guides for ideas)

4) Create **THREE** restaurants or food stands within your United States History theme park.

*When people are riding the rides and enjoying the atmosphere of your quality theme park all day, they tend to get hungry. You will want to create at least **THREE** restaurants or places to get food within your theme park. These establishments should be very creative and historically significant. (For Example: Staying with my "Cold War" example: I might have a stand called "Khrushchev Kebabs!" or "Nixon's Tricks and Treats".) It would not be enough to simply say "hamburger*

stand here". Each restaurant should be describe in at least ONE paragraph and should also have a small sample menu describing some of the items that can be purchased there.

5) Staff your theme park with **THREE** historical figures to wander around and entertain your guests.

Every good amusement park has fun characters that walk about the park and bring joy to all of the patrons. Your park should include at least THREE fun characters that might walk around the park and interact with your guests. These characters should be historically significant and contain a description of at least ONE paragraph explaining their historical significance.

6) What do I need to include in my theme park project? Reminders!

- The assignment is meant to serve as a review and culminating assignment. This assignment will especially serve you well as a review if you use this opportunity to fill holes or gaps in your understanding of US history.
- Each ride, attraction, restaurant and character should have a description of at least ONE paragraph. **The description should contain not only information about the attraction, but also information about why it is historically significant!**
- Your theme park should be creative and fun. People do not want to come to a boring park!

7) Finally, choose **ONE** of the following additions to your marketing campaign. You must use color on the one you choose!

Create a colorful map of your park. Be sure to label all your major attractions!

OR

Create a brochure advertising your park. Be sure to include information about your major attractions!