

A Tale of Two Cities

Scenario:

Your class won a week-long, all expenses paid, educational tour to Europe sponsored by the International Historical Society. However, the company providing the tour guides just filed for bankruptcy. Your local Board of Education is reluctant to approve the trip because they feel that the educational value of the trip is significantly diminished by the lack of qualified tour guides. Your team feels that they can step in as tour guides. The Board has asked that you demonstrate your historical expertise by creating a multimedia presentation that highlights two cities of historical significance from the period A.D. 500-1789. The cities need to have artifacts remaining from the era that are available for viewing.

Possible topics to cover (these are only suggestions and are not a requirement for a superior presentation):

1. What cities would you choose?
2. What happened there and when?
3. How did these historical events impact present civilization?
4. What aspect of history would you highlight? e.g., culture, science, war, art, etc.
5. Compare and contrast the cities in terms of their impact on history and later generations.
6. If you could bring back only one souvenir from each city, what would it be and why?

Possible Sources

Library books, history books, historians, videos, encyclopedias, and Internet websites:

Travel Changes Lives <http://www.acis.com/>

University Educational, Inc. <http://www.uet.com/>

Yale Educational Travel <http://alumni.yale.edu/aya/et/where/europe.php>

Bibliography

Be sure to have a printed bibliography to hand to the judges before you begin your presentation. You are encouraged to cite all of your sources including graphics. A simple web tool to organize your bibliography can be found at <http://citationmachine.net/>