Cultural Investigation: The Life and Contributions of a Famous Hispanic
Spanish I Project

I. Overview
Students will research the life and contributions of a famous Hispanic; living or dead. Students will investigate one of the topics selected from a teacher-made list. Projects will consist of an oral presentation, a written paper, and a display board.

II. Purpose
Learning another language extends much further than simply learning the grammatical structure. This project gives the students the opportunity to learn about the culture and history of Latin America. Students will choose an individual from a list that includes writers, painters, poets, activists, politicians, musicians, athletes, and actors. With this project, students will gain a basic understanding and appreciation of another culture other than their own. Students will share their research findings with their classmates through communication in English.

III. Information
Students will investigate and report on the following information:

A. Overview / Introduction
B. Biography
   1. Date of birth
   2. Place of birth
   3. Place of Citizenship (if different from birthplace)
   4. Occupation
   5. Family Information
C. Analysis of person's work (Why? How? What?) - particularly for writers, poets, musicians, and painters
D. Contributions and importance to the Latin American history and culture. Also, include accomplishments here.
E. Personal reflection and opinion of topic (most interesting fact learned, what did you enjoy about the research, would you include your topic on future lists as being important to the history of Latin America)
F. Conclusion (sum it all up)
G. Appendix (handouts, maps, charts, pictures, copies of sources, notes, etc.)

IV. Paper Requirements
Each paper will have the following format:
A. Title/Cover page
B. Outline
C. Body: 3-5 pages typed; double-spaced; 12 point Times New Roman; pages numbered with your last name and page number at the top right; margins 1 inch on each side, top, and bottom
D. Works Cited (MLA Format)
E. Appendix
V. **Oral Presentation**
Each presentation will have the following requirements:
   A. Must be at least 5 minutes long.
   B. Introduction must be spoken in **SPANISH**.
   C. Must have display board.
   D. Focus on the most important highlights about your topic.
   E. Must have a handout for class (i.e. outline).

VI. **Grading Criteria**
See attached grading rubric for each part.

VII. **Materials**
- Books
- Internet
- Videos
- Teacher

VIII. **Important Dates**
- September 18-20  Go to Computer Lab
- September 21-22  Go to Library
- September 25    Outline Due
- October 9        Handouts
- October 11-13    Presentations
- November 22      Paper Due
List of Topics

1. Desi Arnaz (actor/musician)
2. Ruben Blades (actor/musician)
3. Simón Bolívar (revolutionary)
4. Jorge Luis Borges (writer)
5. Fidel Castro (politician)
6. César Chávez (activist)
7. Roberto Clemente (athlete)
8. Julio Cortázar (writer)
9. Celia Cruz (musician)
10. Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz (writer)
11. Rubén Darío (poet)
12. Ernesto “Che” Guevara (revolutionary)
13. Nicolás Guillén (poet)
14. Father Miguel Hidalgo (revolutionary)
15. Benito Juárez (politician)
16. Frida Kahlo (painter)
17. Gabriel García Márquez (writer)
18. José Martí (writer and revolutionary)
19. Rigoberta Menchú (activist)
20. Mirabel Sisters (activists)
21. Pablo Neruda (poet)
22. Edward James Olmos (actor)
23. Octavio Paz (writer)
24. Eva and Juan Perón (activist and politician)
25. Diego Rivera (muralist)
26. Sammy Sosa (athlete)
27. Lee Treviño (athlete)
28. Rafael Trujillo (politician)
29. Pancho Villa (revolutionary)
30. Emiliano Zapata (politician)
Person Name
Catchy Title/ Nickname
Your first and last name
Class Period
1st Semester