

MAKE YOUR OWN *PRESIDENT'S VISION* POSTER

Humanities Texas developed *A President's Vision* to highlight the aspirations, programs, and initiatives of notable U.S. presidents. The centerpiece of the program is a series of [seven posters](#) examining the “vision” that shaped the presidencies of George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Abraham Lincoln, Theodore Roosevelt, Franklin Delano Roosevelt, Lyndon Baines Johnson, and Ronald Reagan.

After exploring the [*President's Vision* poster series](#), it's time to design your own poster!

GOAL:

This project will give you the opportunity not only to expand your knowledge of U.S. history but also develop your critical thinking, research, writing, presentation, and media design skills and gain familiarity with researching primary resources online.

INSTRUCTIONS:

Select any U.S. president and develop a poster that identifies this president's “vision” while in office. Use explanatory text and primary sources to illustrate how the selected president pursued his vision during his term(s).

Posters may either be digital or hard copy. Hard copy posters can include such tangible media as paintings, drawings, two-dimensional collage, photography, and computer-generated art. Digital posters may be created using any number of desktop publishing and design programs, as well as interactive poster development tools such as [Glogster](#), [Canva](#), or [Thinglink](#).

REQUIRED COMPONENTS OF POSTER:

- The poster design must be original.
- The poster should include a brief essay describing 1) the “vision” of the selected president and 2) the programs and initiatives that the president enacted to pursue his vision. The essay should be between 200 and 500 words.
- The poster should include at least three primary sources that illustrate the “vision” of the selected president.
- Each primary source must have a caption identifying the title, creator, and date of the source. See the *President's Vision* posters for models.
- The project should include an accompanying “works cited” page showing the sources consulted for the project.

QUESTIONS ABOUT PRIMARY SOURCE DOCUMENTS

What are primary source documents, and what can I use on my poster?

Examples of primary sources that students may feature on their posters include letters; manuscripts; excerpts from diaries, journals, newspapers, speeches, interviews, memoirs, and documents produced by government agencies such as Congress or the Office of the President; works of art; and historical photographs. Students who create interactive digital posters may also incorporate audio and video recordings.

Where can I find primary source documents online?

Students should use reputable sources when gathering materials for their posters. The following sites are good places to begin research:

- [American Memory \(Library of Congress\)](#)
- [Docs Teach \(National Archives\)](#)
- [Our Documents: The 100 Milestone Documents \(National Archives\)](#)
- [History Matters \(George Washington University\)](#)

How do I write and format captions for the primary sources featured in my poster?

Captions should include: the title of the primary source, who created it, and the year it was created (e.g., *Thomas Jefferson* by Rembrandt Peale, 1800). See the *President's Vision* posters for examples.

How do I follow MLA style when creating citations?

The [Purdue Online Writing Lab](#) has helpful instructions for following MLA format when creating citations and an example of an MLA "works cited" page.