

TEXAS STATE GERMAN CONTEST

Research Paper Critique Sheet

Contestant(s): _____

School: _____

Judges' Names: _____

INSTRUCTIONS TO JUDGES

Please make sure you have read the "Instructions to Judges" sheet in your packet. Each judge should fill out his/her own critique sheet for each entry. Make at least a few comments on each sheet. Determine the winners by adding all the points given by the judges. **Double-check your addition.** Fill out the results sheet after ALL entries have been judged.

RULES

One entry per school. It must be in English. It may be a group project. The topic must be an original German-Texan cultural theme, something not commonly known, such as a person, family, place, building, house, business, area, group, settlement, organization, church, etc. The entry must be typed and double-spaced. Length: minimum 700 words, maximum 1000 words. Each entry must have internal documentation with proper endnotes or footnotes and a bibliography. Follow the rules in the latest MLA Style Sheet, paying special attention to rules for entering internet sources. **You must use at least 2 sources, at least one of which must be non-Internet. If 5 or more sources are used, at least two must be non-Internet sources.** The entry should be placed, unfolded and with a title page, in a 9 X 12 manila envelope. This sealed envelope should be turned into the designated room by 9:00 a.m. on the day of contest. On the title page include the name(s) of the contestant(s), the school, the address of the school, the date, and the title of the paper. Keep a copy of the paper as well as copies of any illustrations and/or photos used for illustrations. The entry will be opened by the judges only.

CRITERIA FOR JUDGING

1. **Topic:** Research should be evidenced by depth and detail (0-20 points).
2. **Originality:** Topic is unusual or treated creatively, e.g., from first-person point of view. Use of many sources to come to conclusions, i.e., 3 or more sources. Use of primary sources (letters, cemetery stones, etc.) (0-20 points).
3. **Presentation** (style of writing): Clarity, flavor, use of words, humor, interesting anecdotes, creativity (0-20 points).
4. **Mechanics** from the MLA style sheet and as requested in the rules above: Endnotes/footnotes, bibliography, length, typing, title page (0-20 points).
5. **Enhancements:** Inclusion of pictures, charts, interviews, illustrations, and realia to enhance the written word (0-20 points).

TOTAL POINTS: (100 possible) _____

MORE COMMENTS TO HELP THE CONTESTANT (Write on the back if necessary):