

## Step 1: Choose your topic

- Make sure you choose THREE possible topics that are of interest to you. Spend some time exploring a topic before you make it one of your choices. Some topics may sound like great ideas, but aren't as interesting to us once we start learning about them.
- You will receive your assigned topic on Wednesday, Feb. 27<sup>th</sup>.

## Step 2: Research

- You will use RAD forms. 3 RAD forms are the minimum requirement.
- You must choose quality, trusted resources for your research. Check the *To Kill a Mockingbird* project page on the library website for suggestions, or see Ms. Harris.
- Make sure you use a variety of sources and that you back up your information with more than one source.
- Take notes in your own words and use bullet points or other systems that rely on the collection of facts and ideas. **DO NOT WRITE NOTES IN COMPLETE SENTENCES.**
- Spend some time exploring other parts of your topic. You can also research people, places and events that affected what was going on with your topic. You don't have to write the same information down four times. Be creative and explore your topic.
- **REMEMBER:** part of your final grade will be based on how well you choose your research sources. You will need to explain your choices in your annotated bibliography.

## Step 3: Write

- You will write a one page (typed) overview of your topic. Your overview will include the following THREE things:
  - *A brief summary of the event or person.* Give us enough information so that we understand what happened and be sure to include important events or factors.
  - *An explanation of WHY the event or person was influential in the past.* What change did this person or event bring about? Why was it important?
  - *Your opinion about HOW this event or person still affects us today.* Why is it important to study your topic? What can we learn about it that we can apply to our lives today?
- You will create an annotated bibliography of the sources you used.
  - Follow MLA style (SEE THE EXAMPLE AND DIRECTIONS) Formatting, punctuation, spelling and grammar all count.
  - Create a one paragraph annotation for each of your research sources.
    - Briefly describe the content of the source.
    - Explain, **with evidence**, why this source is relevant to the topic, is of good quality and can be trusted.

## Step 4: Post your topic overview

- You will post your topic overview to the [To Kill a Mockingbird](#) Forum on the MS Library Moodle. (DIRECTIONS TO FOLLOW)