Option A: Research

	What is it?	What will be graded?	*When is it due?	Quick Overview	Possible Points
Option A	A research project for students ready to dig in and explore the world around them	- the "assignment" posted in Canvas (students will answer the questions in the bolded boxes)	Wednesday, May 20th	-research requiring social media/news -student opinion -fact checking -taking a stand on an issue	100
	a final product	- #6 Google Slides	Wednesday, May 20th	-Google Slides will be the final product	100

*Please see the Q &A box below for extra clarification

Standard: Research/Organizing and Presenting Ideas. Students organize and present their ideas and information according to the purpose of the research and their audience. Students are expected to synthesize the research into a presentation that; uses substantiated information to support their claim/opinion on the issue, provides an analysis that logically progresses and clearly states their point of view, and uses graphics and illustrations in the Google Slide that helps explain the issue and point of view.

Rubric:

Skills	Explanation	Points
uses **substantiated information** to support their claim/opinion on the issue they found on social media/news media	You will provide this information in the boxes I have bolded on the assignment. All of the boxes will be combined to make up the points available.	50
provides an analysis that logically progresses and clearly states their **point of view**	You will provide this information in the boxes I have bolded on the assignment. All of the boxes will be combined to make up the points available.	50
Final Product: uses **graphics and illustrations** in the Google Slide that helps explain the issue and point of view	You will use graphics and illustrations in the Google Slide you create. -4 slides max -last slide explains how each source added to your knowledge of the issue	100

Step 1: Search your social media feed for news, events, and/or issues going on in the world around you. (If you do not follow any news outlet on social media, start today :) When you find an issue, you want to think about how you would ask a friend if they agree with your stance on the issue. For example: I was looking at my Instagram feed and saw a story about Finland being named "the happiest country in the world." As I read the post below the picture, I learned this award was based on six variables that support well-being. This is where I decided what I wanted my research to be about. "<u>What variables truly support well-being?</u>" I could imagine asking my peers, or you, this question, and I know I would get different answers. Imagining these different answers will help me answer the last part of #3. **This question will become the issue that I want to research.**

Step 2: Tell me what news source made you interested in this issue.

> I discovered this issue on (say the name of the news source and what social media you used)
> EXAMPLE: I discovered my issue on CNN on Instagram.

Step 3: Decide on an issue from your news feed that interests you.

> I will research (finish this sentence with the issue you will be researching) because...

Most issues have opposing viewpoints.
Generally speaking, what are the opposing viewpoints for the issue you chose?

> 1. Some people think (say what some people think about the issue)
> 2. Others disagree and think (say how people might disagree with the first group of people)

Step 4: Find a credible source that supports the different points of view you listed above. (one source per point of view) (only two viewpoints needed)

Viewpoint (at least one (1) sentence)	Source that supports the viewpoint

Step 5: What is your opinion on the issue? Write a sentence in the box that says what you think about the issue you chose.

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Step 6: FINAL PRODUCT: Create a Google Slide presentation to show your information. Use images and illustrations that help support the information you are sharing. **(This step is turned in separately from this assignment. You will turn this step into the discussion board labeled, "(Class Period) Option A Final Product Turn In" in Canvas.)**

Q & A

Q: What do you mean when you use the terms; research, news source, experts, issue, bias, substantiated and unsubstantiated claim?

A:

research (n) the systematic investigation into and study of materials and sources in order to establish facts and reach new conclusions. (v) to investigate systematically. (For this assignment specifically, it means you will explore/investigate an issue in the news that is interesting to you and then make and defend an opinion you have after you've learned others' opinions over the same issue)

news source (n) In journalism, a source is a person, publication, or other record or document that gives timely information (For this assignment specifically, I am asking you to look at your social media feed. I think it is VERY beneficial for students to check, and recheck, what we see on social media - we see a picture, it gets our attention, and we quickly skim the text for information. That is why I would like the issue you research to come from your/a social media entity. If you do not have social media, Option 2: Literary Exploration, might be a better fit for you, or, you can create one. Also, if you do not follow any news on social media, begin now. I follow media I agree with AND media I may not 100% agree with. I do this in an effort to stay informed about what the world thinks/believes is going on. Here's who I follow; CNN, Fox News, The New York Times, NBC, BBC, The Washington Post, NPR, ABC and MSNBC News, The Wall Street Journal, CDC and The World Health Organization, etc.)

experts (n) a person who has a comprehensive and authoritative knowledge of or skill in a particular area. (These people will help you get to the facts of your issue. *Members of the media are not often experts. They sometimes bring experts into their discussions, but you, the student, should check their credentials to make sure they truly are a knowledgeable source of information.)

issue (n) an important topic or problem for debate or discussion. (For this assignment specifically, you are looking through your social media feed to see what people are talking about and ask yourself if what they are talking about is important to you. *I know most are talking about COVID-19 right now, but if you follow some of the news sources I listed above, you can go to their older stories for various issues in the world. Try to pick a topic that is current and within the past three/four years. Some issues stem from very long ago, and those issues are okay to use as well because they have probably been in the news recently. My caution is, don't choose a boring topic just to get the assignment done. Take time to reflect and think, "What *am* I passionate about?" (You've got plenty of time :)

bias (n) prejudice in favor of or against one thing, person, or group compared with another, usually in a way considered to be unfair.

media bias (n) when journalists/news producers decide on specific events and stories that are reported, and how they are covered, that might be considered unfair (You want all information you use to be unbiased. In other words, you want the media to provide "just the facts," not so much their opinion on the issue.)

substantiated claim (n) a claim, accusation, or story that has been proven to be valid or true.

unsubstantiated claim (n) a claim, accusation, or story that has **not** been proven to be valid or true. (You want the information you use in your research to be substantiated, or proven to be true. The best way to make sure your information to be true is to make sure you find credible experts to support your opinion.)

Q: What parts are you grading?

A. You will receive two (2) grades from this assignment. I will grade the **bolded boxes** in the assignment you turn into Canvas, then I will grade your **Google Slides**.

Q: What if I do not have the resources to complete this assignment?

A. Choose to complete "Option B:Literary Exploration."