

# Barack Obama and Nelson Mandela

A Comparative  
Study



# Standards Covered

In this unit, we will cover the following standards:

7.RI.1 Cite several pieces of textual evidence to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text.

7.W.7 Conduct short research projects to answer a question, drawing on several sources and generating additional related, focused questions for further research and investigation.

7.W.10 Write routinely over extended time frames (time for research, reflection, and revision) and shorter time frames (a single sitting or a day or two) for a range of discipline-specific tasks, purposes, and audiences.

7.SL.4 Present claims and findings, emphasizing salient points in a focused, coherent manner with pertinent descriptions, appropriate vocabulary, facts, details, and examples; use appropriate eye contact, adequate volume, and clear pronunciation.

# Objectives

Students will be able to discuss and compare Nelson Mandela and Barack Obama's historic presidencies and impact on the world (7.SL.4)

Students will be able to write an argumentative essay comparing and contrasting Barack Obama and Nelson Mandela's historic presidencies and claim which historical figure had a greater impact on the world (7.W.10)

Students will be able to read and analyze informational articles about Nelson Mandela and Barack Obama's historic presidencies and draw on those sources to craft an argumentative essay (7.RI.1)

# Who is Barack Obama?



Barack Obama is the first African American President of the United States.

He was president from 2009 - 2017.

He served two terms as US president.

**READ: Barack Obama Article on Canvas**

# To-Do's While Reading

1. Annotate and highlight relevant sections of the article
2. Ask yourself: What pieces of this article will support my argument in my essay? Underline and highlight those sections.
3. Take notes: use your graphic organizer or a Cornell note sheet to take notes.

# Famous Speech by Barack Obama



# Who is Nelson Mandela?



Nelson Mandela is the first Black African President of South Africa.

He was president from 1994 - 1999.

He served one term as South Africa's president.

**READ: Nelson Mandela Article on Canvas**

# To-Do's While Reading

1. Annotate and highlight relevant sections of the article
2. Ask yourself: What pieces of this article will support my argument in my essay? Underline and highlight those sections.
3. Take notes: use your graphic organizer or a Cornell note sheet to take notes.



# Famous Speech by Nelson Mandela



# Appropriate Sources – how we find them and how we cite them

- When you do a Google search, you will find appropriate sources and inappropriate sources.
- Wikipedia.com is an inappropriate source. Do NOT use Wikipedia or any of the information from it in your paper.
- You must cite your sources properly. Please refer to the MLA Middle School Citation Guide.
- For this assignment, the teacher is giving you two articles by *National Geographic*.
  - Why is *National Geographic* a good source?
    - NatGeo is a credible secondary source that has a history of sound journalism.

# MLA Citation Example

## How to Create a Works Cited, A Few Examples

What the entries looks like:



*Stu, Dent.* "All about Warthogs." *Wide World of Warthogs*, edited by Fred Winters. 2nd. ed., no. 13, Wacky Publisher, 2000, URL.

What the entries include:



- ✓ The author is identified.
- ✓ The title of the article is in quotes.
- ✓ The "container" is identified (*Wide World of Warthogs*)
- ✓ Contributor is identified (Fred Winters)
- ✓ Version (2nd ed.)
- ✓ Number (no. 13)
- ✓ Publisher (Wacky Publisher)
- ✓ Publication date (2000)
- ✓ Location (URL)

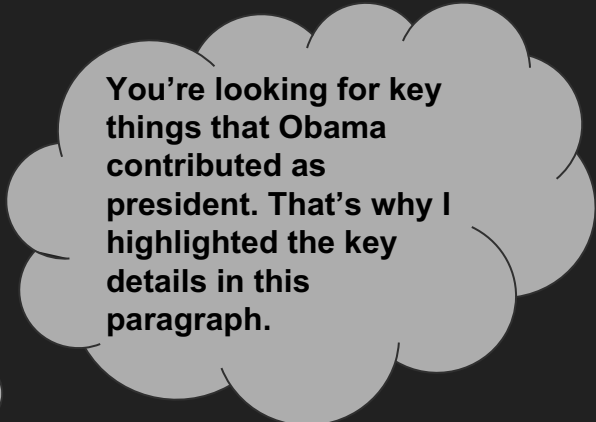
# Taking Notes and Annotations

While you are reading your two articles about Nelson Mandela and Barack Obama, you are going to highlight or underline key details.

Example 1:

## PRIORITIZING HEALTH CARE

Obama's biggest goal as president was to help all citizens afford health care. At the time, almost 50 million Americans didn't have health insurance, which meant that some families didn't have the money to go to the doctor. Obama wanted to change that.



You're looking for key things that Obama contributed as president. That's why I highlighted the key details in this paragraph.

# Taking Notes and Annotations, pt. 2

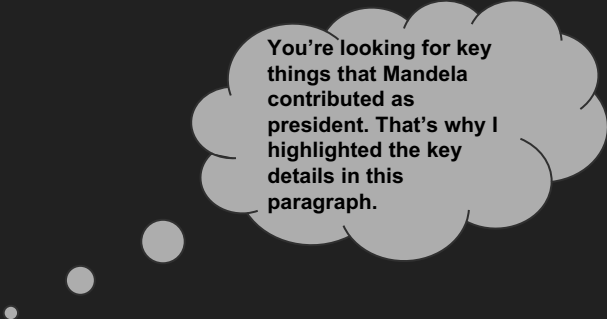
While you are reading your two articles about Nelson Mandela and Barack Obama, you are going to highlight or underline key details.

Example 2:

South Africa is home to many different **peoples** and **cultures** – so much so that it's been nicknamed the '**rainbow nation**'. But, sadly, at the time that Nelson Mandela was growing up, there was a huge **racial divide** in the country.

White people ran the country, and they generally led privileged lives with good jobs, nice homes and access to good schools and healthcare. Most black people, however, worked in low-paid jobs, and lived in poor communities with poor facilities. They had far **fewer rights**, too – they weren't even allowed to vote in elections!

Like many others, Nelson Mandela felt that everyone deserved to be treated the same, regardless of their skin colour. So, in **1944**, he joined the **African National Congress (ANC)** – a political group that strived for equal rights for whites and blacks.



You're looking for key things that Mandela contributed as president. That's why I highlighted the key details in this paragraph.

# Writing Prompt

Question:

Who made a bigger impact on their country as the first Black president, Barack Obama or Nelson Mandela?

Defend your position with facts from both articles.

# Preparing to Write

Once you are ready to write, you are going to use the graphic organizer to get your thoughts together.

You will write the prompt, a hook, and claim or thesis.

Then you will write the body paragraphs with topic sentences and supporting details (i.e. evidence).

\*\*\*WRITE COMPLETE SENTENCES

## Argumentative Essay Outline

NO 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> person!!  
I, you, we, us

☐ Yes

Prompt: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ No

State 2 reasons to support the box you check:

1) \_\_\_\_\_  
2) \_\_\_\_\_



### I. Introduction

ADDRESS THE TOPIC IN GENERAL

GIVE SOME BACKGROUND INFO  
LEADING TO WHAT YOUR SIDE  
ON THE ARGUMENT WILL BE.  
DON'T USE "I" OR "YOU".

USE WORDS FROM YOUR  
PROMPT IN YOUR THESIS

A. Hook (1): \_\_\_\_\_

B. General info on topic (2): \_\_\_\_\_

C. \_\_\_\_\_

D. Claim/Thesis (topic + side + reasons) (1): \_\_\_\_\_

### II. Body Paragraph

Reason 1- Evidence  
and Warrant

\*\*Use 1 quote\*\*  
THEN ADD 2 MORE  
SENTENCES OF SUPPORTING  
DETAILS

A. Topic Sentence (1): \_\_\_\_\_

B. Evidence (2): \_\_\_\_\_

C. \_\_\_\_\_

# Preparing to Write, pt. 2

You will also write a counterclaim, a rebuttal, a summary of the argument, and restate your thesis in the conclusion.

<p><b>III. Body Paragraph</b> Reason 2: Evidence and Warrant</p> <p><u>"Use 1 quote"</u> THEN ADD 2 MORE SENTENCES OF SUPPORTING DETAILS</p>	<p>A. Topic Sentence (1): _____</p> <p>B. Evidence (2): _____</p> <p>C. _____</p>
<p><b>IV. Body Paragraph</b> Counterclaim</p> <p><u>START YOUR FIRST SENTENCE</u> <u>BOUNCEBALLS</u> Others argue that... Others may say that... A common argument against the position is...</p> <p><u>Topic</u> AND ADD 2 MORE SENTENCES OF SUPPORTING DETAILS FOR THE COUNTERCLAIM</p>	<p>A. Counterclaim (3): _____</p> <p>B. _____</p> <p>C. _____</p>
<p><b>V. Conclusion</b> Rebuttal/Summarize Argument</p> <p><u>START YOUR FIRST SENTENCE</u> <u>BOUNCEBALLS</u> Some people may argue... but... A possible concern is... A common counterpoint is... That is an understandable concern. <u>BOUNCEBALLS</u> This argument is wrong because...</p> <p><u>START THE LAST SENTENCE</u> To sum up, To conclude, In conclusion, All in all, To summarize,</p>	<p>A. Rebuttal (1 start with introductory phrase): _____</p> <p>B. Summarize the Argument (1): _____</p> <p>C. Restate Thesis (1): _____</p>



# First Draft

After you complete your graphic organizer, you are going to use Pages to draft your first draft of your paper.

Your paper must follow the MLA guidelines for formatting. Click on reports and click on Research Paper and you will find the appropriate template.

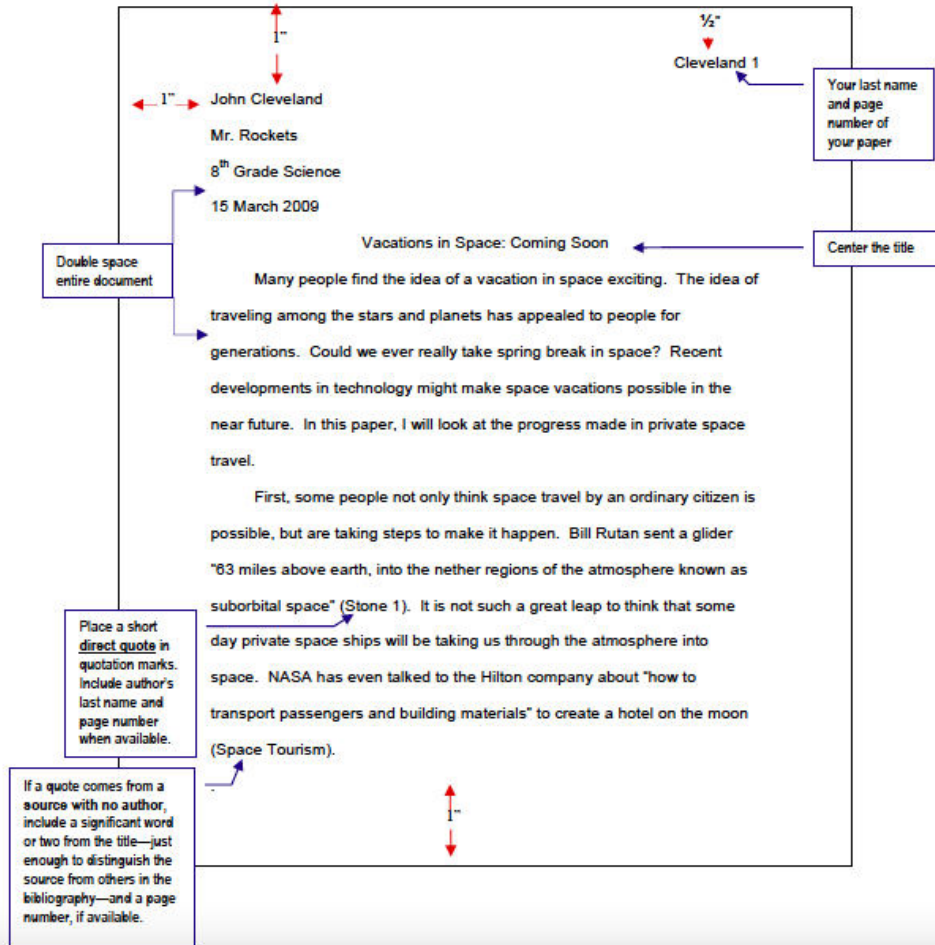
You will have your name, your teacher's name, the subject, and the date in the left hand upper corner.

Your last name and the page number in the upper right hand corner.

You will center the title of your paper.

You will double space the entire document.

## FORMATTING A RESEARCH PAPER (MLA STYLE)



# Setting up your paper:

Take this opportunity to setup your paper in Pages.

On the left hand side, you will have the following:

**First Name Last Name**

**Teacher's Name**

**Class Name**

**Date**

## First Draft Due in Canvas

- Turn in your first draft to the teacher in Canvas.
- Wait for feedback from your teacher.
- Reread articles and notes and prepare for second draft.