Mrs. Perich

Reflection Example

October 18, 2014

Spanish Influenza – Reflection

I chose to complete my project on the Spanish Influenza and its affect on the city of Philadelphia. I chose to do this because I researched this topic previously for a book my professor was writing. I wanted to narrow it down and chose Philladelphia since I used to live there.

During this project I had a few problems. The most problematic part of the process was finding specific information and a primary source. I had to actually go to the Pennsylvania Historical Society and the Newtown Historical Society in order to view primary sources like letters and journals. The most important lessons I learned during this project were that primary sources validate your research, narrowing a topic requires a lot more work, but in the end, it pays off!

During my presentation 3 criticisms given to me were that I used filler words, I need to make my Keynote more appealing and I needed to have a longer presentation. I do feel as if the presentation should have been longer but I found it difficult not to ever use a filler word. Also, I did rush on my Keynote, so that makes sense. Even though there were criticisms, I did receive an 85%! I was told I had an interesting topic, reliable sources, and a great visual! I agree because I spent a lot of time researching and using primary sources, as well as working on my visual.

The best part of this project was seeing the primary documents. I never really knew how important they could be to research. I didn’t enjoy the writing of the paper. I had all these great facts and ideas that I found when researching that just didn’t fit and couldn’t be put into my paper. It felt like a waste. In the end though, I was truly proud of my final draft because I used MLA format and incorporated in-text citations which has always been difficult for me!

For my next project I plan to work harder on my Keynote and incorporate more visuals into it. I believe that I deserve an A- overall. While my presentation skills may not be the best, my written work was A worthy, as well as my visual.