

Artifact Guidelines

Name _____

_____ Period _____

An **artifact** is anything made by humans. Artifacts provide archaeologists lots of information about how people lived in the past. It is now your job to make an artifact that represents the culture your group developed. Today, your group decided which cultural universal each person will make an artifact for. Now that you have your assigned cultural universal, you are to make an artifact that represents the ideas your group developed for that cultural universal (see “Final Ideas for Cultural Universals” to remind yourself of the decisions your group made).

Scoring

1. This assignment counts as three regular homework assignments and will therefore be a significant portion of your grade.
2. Your grade will be based on how well you constructed your artifact, how well it represents the cultural universal, and how detailed your information is in your message.
3. Plan well so that your artifact will be turned in **on time**.
4. Do your best to make an amazing artifact!!! See me if you have questions, need ideas, or need help of any kind.

Ideas on Website

Be sure to check the slideshow on my website for photos of projects from prior years to get ideas for your artifact. <http://reddsocialstudies.weebly.com> (Archaeology Pictures)



Cultural Universal: Shelter



Cultural Universal: Art

(See instructions on back for making artifacts)

Cultural Universal Artifacts

Design

1. The cultural universal (clothing, food, shelter, etc.) that you are representing should be obvious.
2. Use materials you have around the house like cardboard, paint, aluminum foil, paper towel rolls, Styrofoam, wood, etc. Your artifact will probably get damaged during the burying and digging up part of the project so your artifact **should not be made out of anything that is valuable or that is important to you.**
3. Your artifact should look like it fits in with the culture your group developed in terms of time period, geographic setting, physical description of the people, etc. (see “Final Background on Culture” to help you remember what your group decided).

Message

1. Your message needs to be one or two complete sentences that give as much information about your cultural universal as possible. The quality of your message will determine a portion of your grade for this project.
2. **Your message is to be written on your artifact in your culture’s language** (use Language and Numbers sheet). Only the Rosetta Stone should have English written on it.
3. Use accurate spelling, spaces between words, and punctuation as you write your message so that it can be easily translated by the group who digs up your artifacts.
4. **Have a group member or parent check your message to make sure it can be translated correctly into English.**

Rosetta Stone Artifacts

If you are the language person for your group, the artifact you will make is the Rosetta Stone. This is the most important artifact for your culture and must be done well and turned in ON TIME.

Materials

1. Choose a material that is sturdy that will not break when buried.
2. Choose a material that you can write on easily and that will be easy to read by the group who digs up your artifacts.

Message

1. Write a paragraph giving an overview of your culture, including everything listed on your “Final Background on Culture” sheet. You may also include some of the information from your “Final Cultural Universals” sheet. The quality of your message will determine a major portion of your grade for this project.
2. Write your paragraph in English and in the language you developed for your culture (use Language and Numbers sheet) on your Rosetta Stone. Be sure it is readable.
3. Use accurate spelling, spaces between words, and punctuation as you write your message so that the language can be easily translated by the group who digs up your artifacts.
4. **Have a group member or parent check your message to make sure it can be translated correctly into English.**