

## **Heroes of the 1920s Project**

Students will be assigned a “hero” of the 1920s (list of heroes is on the back) to research, write a short paper about, & give a short oral presentation about. For this project, there will be a total of 4 days. This assignment is worth a total of 150 points.

### **Research:**

Students will research in class for 3 days on their assigned hero (students may visit the Library to check out materials). Students should be able to identify their person, his or her outstanding accomplishments, & why the person became an idol of fans in the 1920s. Students may do research on their own also, but must be actively researching while in class. Students will be given a grade for actively utilizing research time while in class. 20% of the final grade for this project (30 points) will be based on how well students utilize their research time in class.

### **Paper:**

Students must complete a 1-2 page paper on their assigned hero that will be due on the 4th day at the beginning of class (following the 3 days of research). Preferably, the paper should be typed, but if it is handwritten, it must be written in either black or blue ink (no pencils). The paper must identify their person, discuss their heroes’ outstanding accomplishments & explain why they became an idol during the 1920s. Also, the paper should include an opinion as to why you think the person you researched rather than soldiers & politicians became a hero during this era. Finally, the paper should discuss what role (if any) you feel the automobile, radio, & mass-circulation newspapers had in the development of your person’s status as a hero. 40% of the final grade for this project (60 points) will be based on the quality of the student’s 1-2 page paper.

### **Oral Presentation:**

Students are to give a short oral presentation on their person during class on the 4th day. The oral presentation needs to identify your person, explain some of his or her outstanding accomplishments, & explain why the person became an idol during the 1920s. 40% of the final grade for this project (60 points) will be based on the quality of the student’s short oral presentation.

### *List of 1920s Heroes*

- Louis Armstrong
- Josephine Baker
- John Barrymore
- Sidney Bechet
- Clara Bow
- Al Capone
- Charlie Chaplin
- Jack Dempsey
- Amelia Earhart
- Duke Ellington
- Gertrude Ederle
- Douglas Fairbanks
- F. Scott Fitzgerald
- George Gershwin
- Red Grange
- Ernest Hemingway
- Harry Houdini
- Bobby Jones
- (Stan) Laurel & (Oliver) Hardy
- Sinclair Lewis
- Charles Lindbergh
- Mary Pickford
- Knute Rockne
- Will Rogers
- Babe Ruth
- Bill Tilden
- Gene Tunney
- Rudolph Valentino
- Mae West