

# 5 Sections for your History Day Project

## **Background:**

This is the big picture. What does your audience need to know about what is happening in history, or from a broader perspective in order to understand your topic.

Ex. Need to talk about slavery ending (13th Amendment) in the United States and the inequity that followed in order to understand why Rosa Parks gave up her seat on the bus.

## **Build-Up:**

This is what happened right before your main topic, or what led to your topic.

Ex. Need to talk about the Civil Rights Movement, and Park's and others training for non-violent protest.

## **Heart of Story:**

This is when you talk about the main topic you chose, and what happened.

Ex. Talk about Rosa Parks refusing to give up her seat on the bus, and that action leading up to her arrest.

## **Short-Term Impact:**

This is when you talk about what happened immediately (or soon after) the main event/topic. The immediate impact.

Ex. After Parks' arrest they started a bus boycott in Montgomery that lasted 381 days and eventually led to the city passing a law allowing Black people to sit where they wanted.

## **Long-Term Impact:**

This is where you talk about the impact your topic/event had in the long term. Be careful not to use "what if" history here, make sure you can prove the impact.

Ex. The Montgomery Bus Boycott, along with other non-violent protesting during the Civil Rights Movement led to the passing of the Civil Rights Act of 1964

**Theme (Triumph and Tragedy):** The theme for this year can go in whatever section(s) it best fits. Just be sure that where there is Triumph and or Tragedy that you are noting that for your judges to see. It should be clear in your thesis statement as well.

**\*\* Tips for notes:** After you have completed most of your research I would encourage you to go through your notes and color code them for what notes/information fits which section of your project. This will help you compile your information for your project!