

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date submitted: \_\_\_\_\_

## Mark Twain's "The Prince and the Pauper" Pre-Reading Research Project

**The Mission:** Each student will research a background topic for this novel. The teacher will provide a list from which you and your partner may choose a topic. You will be given time in class, and you are expected to use time out of class to finish this project by the due date. After researching the topic and creating note cards and a bibliography, you will create a multimedia presentation that you will present in class on the due date. You will be given a project grade based on your completion of the required elements as noted in the rubric below. You can do it!

### **The Requirements:**

1. At least **three different types of sources** (total) must be used to find information. This does not mean three different Web sites. This means that even if you have fifteen Web sites this would count as one type of source. Types of sources include (but are not limited to) the following: atlases, dictionaries, globes, interviews, telephone directories, encyclopedias, electronic databases, the Reader's Guide, and magazines.

2. A complete and correctly written or typed **bibliography** containing all sources used or consulted.
3. Each presentation must be a **multimedia** presentation, meaning a PowerPoint presentation, an oral presentation with a visual, a visual presentation with music, a display/demonstration, a video, etc. We will discuss this specifically in class.
4. Some information in **writing** must be turned in for evaluation. If you choose to do a PowerPoint presentation, this could be a printout of your slides. If you create a visual presentation, a report must be included. A summary of your findings must be turned in even if you give an oral presentation. Six-Trait writing will be used to score this component of your project.
5. **Time limit.** You will be given 3 to 5 minutes to present your project on its due date. If you are short of the 3 minutes or go over the 5 minutes, points will be deducted in this area of the rubric.
6. **You pick it!** For this portion, you will get to choose the one aspect of your project that you believe deserves recognition and credit. If you translate Hugh Latimer's letter, maybe you printed your translation on special paper that looks ancient and you want credit for your presentation. If you perform a skit to show the differences between Lady Jane Grey and Mary Queen of Scots, maybe you want extra points for effort put into your costumes. It's up to you!

**The Rubric:**

1. Students used at least three different types of sources.  
(5 points each = 15 points)
2. Students turned in a correct and complete bibliography.  
(15 points)
3. Students created a multimedia presentation. (30 points)
4. Evaluation of writing using the Six Traits. (30 points)
5. The students stayed within the 3-5-minute time limit while presenting their project. (5 points)
6. You pick it! (5 points)

**The Topic:****The Partner:****The Due Date:**

(\*Note: This is used for record keeping by the teacher. You may choose to have the students work in pairs, groups of three, or even groups of four depending on your class size. This sheet may also be used to print out, cut into slips, and have the partners or groups draw their topics out of “a hat.” Sometimes I allow students to duplicate topics based on interest; other times I do not. There is some flexibility in this project. Feel free to add some topics of your own! Good luck!)

# Mark Twain's "The Prince and the Pauper"

## Pre-Reading Research Projects

The Topics

The Students

1. Research the life of Mark Twain and his style of writing.

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2. Tell the story of the House of Tudor including such family members as Henry VIII, Lady Jane Grey, Mary Queen of Scots, Elizabeth I, and Edward VI.

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3. Describe the life of a common person in 16<sup>th</sup> century England.

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4. Describe punishments used in 16<sup>th</sup> century England. Explain a minor offense and its punishment up to a major infraction and its consequence.

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5. What were the similarities and differences between Lady Jane Grey and Mary Queen of Scots?

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6. Explain the education of the nobility in 16th century England. Compare it to education today, public and/or private?

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7. Research London Bridge. What part of its history is described in the classic children's song "London Bridge Is Falling Down?"

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8. Many witchcraft trials were held in England during this time. What might cause a young woman or child to be accused of witchcraft, and what might they have to do to prove their innocence?

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9. Research the feudal ranks of 16<sup>th</sup> century England, such as duke, earl, etc. Describe the privileges that would go with each rank.

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10. Research what is going on in the United States during the time frame of the novel (1547).

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