

SELECT TITLES AND PLANS OF PRESENTATION

CORE GUIDE: FOLLOW A STEP-BY-STEP PROCEDURE TO WRITE REPORTS

1 Decide Title:

Limit scope

2 Select Plan:

1, 2, 3, or 4

3 Preview: Temp outline

4 Reread: Support ideas

5 Note Cards:

4"x6" (I, II, III)

6 Final Outline:

Prove it

7 Write: Flowing report

PART A: LIMITED VS. EXTENSIVE COVERAGE OF TITLES8 Points (1 pt each)

Directions: Which titles limit your presentation? Which ones require extensive coverage? In the blank spaces, write either the letter **E** to denote extensive coverage (too broad for a student report; book-length), or the letter **L** for limited coverage (properly focused and manageable).

1. World War II		2. Causes of the French and Indian War	
3. Early Explorers of North America		4. A Day in the Life of Churchill	
5. World Series Baseball Games		6. How Modern World Series Baseball Began	
7. Forecasting Weather		8. Forecasting Hurricanes	

PART B: SELECT THE PLAN OF PRESENTATION8 Points (1 pt each)

Directions: Write the **number** of the plan to use for each report title below.

THE FOUR STANDARD PLANS OF PRESENTATION:

#1. List details: Support a statement or an opinion with examples

#2. A sequence: Details follow in a step-by-step, or time order

#3. Statement & explanation: Details taken together to explain why or how

#4. Comparison / contrast: Shows likes and differences, past and present

A. What the Early Chinese Contributed to Modern Civilization		B. How Whales Communicate	
C. Transportation in the U.S. in the 1800's and Now		D. A History of Education in America	
E. How Guard Dogs Are Selected and Trained		F. Life of Thomas Alva Edison, the "Wizard of Electricity"	
G. A Present-day Study of Primary Schools in England and the U.S.		H. What Successful People Have in Common	

PART A: LIMITED VS. EXTENSIVE COVERAGE (ANSWER KEY & RATIONALE)

Report Title	Key	Pedagogical Scope Rationale
1. World War II	E	Extensive: Spans 1939–1945, dozens of nations, theaters, and campaigns; requires a multi-volume library.
2. Causes of the French and Indian War	L	Limited: Focuses strictly on causal economic and territorial friction in the Ohio River Valley (1754).
3. Early Explorers of North America	E	Extensive: Covers hundreds of expeditions (Norse, Spanish, French, English, Dutch) over 500+ years.
4. A Day in the Life of Churchill	L	Limited: Confined to a single 24-hour routine, habits, work schedule, and meetings; highly manageable.
5. World Series Baseball Games	E	Extensive: Hundreds of games played since 1903 across more than a century of athletic competition.
6. How Modern World Series Baseball Began	L	Limited: Pinpoints the historic agreement between the AL and NL in 1903 and the inaugural Boston–Pittsburgh series.
7. Forecasting Weather	E	Extensive: The entire discipline of atmospheric thermodynamics, global isobar modeling, radar, and satellite systems.
8. Forecasting Hurricanes	L	Limited: Bounded to a single catastrophic storm archetype, barometric tracking, storm surge modeling, and recon flights.

PART B: FOUR PLANS OF PRESENTATION (ANSWER KEY & RHETORICAL ANALYSIS)

Report Title	Plan #	Rhetorical Structure & Mode
A. What the Early Chinese Contributed to Modern Civilization	#1	Statement with Examples: Statement of impact supported by specific invention examples (paper, printing, compass, gunpowder).
B. How Whales Communicate	#3	Statement with Explanation: Complex acoustic explanation (sonar, echolocation, low-frequency song patterns) requiring collective details. (<i>#1 also acceptable</i>).
C. Transportation in the U.S. in the 1800's and Now	#4	Comparison / Contrast: Explicit temporal comparison juxtaposing 19th-century canals/stagecoaches with modern aviation/highways.
D. A History of Education in America	#2	Sequence (Chronological): Traces educational evolution in time order from colonial dame schools to modern universities.
E. How Guard Dogs Are Selected and Trained	#2	Sequence (Step-by-Step): Procedural timeline: temperament screening → obedience conditioning → tactical alert drills.
F. Life of Thomas Alva Edison, the "Wizard of Electricity"	#2	Sequence (Biographical): Chronological narrative from youth through Menlo Park laboratory breakthroughs. (<i>#1 acceptable if focused on inventions</i>).
G. A Present-day Study of Primary Schools in England and the U.S.	#4	Comparison / Contrast: Direct comparative analysis of national curricula, testing metrics, and classroom environments.
H. What Successful People Have in Common	#1	Statement with Examples: Thesis on shared habits (resilience, curiosity, discipline) substantiated by biographical profiles. (<i>#3 acceptable</i>).

 The Scope Principle: "A Report, Not a Book"

Students naturally gravitate toward massive topics (*World War II, Weather*). Teaching them to spot the difference between **Extensive** and **Limited** topics prevents research paralysis and guarantees cohesive paragraphs.

 The Four Expository Blueprints

Writing is made simple when students match their inquiry to a rhetorical pattern: **Exemplification (#1)**, **Chronology/Process (#2)**, **Systemic Explanation (#3)**, or **Comparative Analysis (#4)**.

 CLASSROOM EXTENSION: TOPIC NARROWING FUNNEL

Demonstrate how to narrow an **Extensive (E)** topic into a viable **Limited (L)** student report:

- *Extensive:* World War II → *Limited 1:* The Navajo Code Talkers in the Pacific • *Limited 2:* Victory Gardens on the American Home Front.
- *Extensive:* Forecasting Weather → *Limited 1:* How Doppler Radar Tracks Severe Tornadoes • *Limited 2:* How Barometers Predict Approaching Fronts.