Bibliographies Made Easy!

Bibliographies are required for all entries, but they can be one of the most frustrating and difficult parts of the History Day process. With the invention of easy to use websites, the process has been made far less painful. Below are tips to make the process easier.

Bibliography Do's and Don'ts

DO:
1. Keep track of all of your sources as you go, including what you used them for
2. Write down all applicable information from each source including author(s), publisher, year/date produced, title(s), day site was visited, publishing city, name of website, etc.
3. Classify your sources as primary or secondary. Keep a separate section for images and pictures.
4. Use annotations wisely. Make sure to note secondary sources that have a great deal of primary sources in them or if they were extremely helpful. This is also your opportunity to explain less well known sources, especially websites.
5. Make sure your websites are credible sources of information. Check the homepage to figure out who the author or producer is.
6. Remember your bibliography is a reflection of the depth of your research, making it an crucial part of your project.

DON'T:
1. Cite Google, Ask, or Wikipedia, as sources. These are search engines. It would be like citing the library you got your book from as the author. These are also unchecked and may contain false information.
2. Put your entire bibliography on your exhibit or documentary.
3. Wait until the last minute. Bibliographies can be tedious. They are much easier to complete as you go.
4. Forget to annotate! Make sure to include what kind of source it is and how it added to your understanding of your topic.
5. Number your sources. This may help you keep track of information, but it is unnecessary for the bibliography.