**“Recent and Contemporary America” – Project Description…………………PRESIDENTIAL CHRONICLE**

**Explanation of Assignment – *What it is…***

The Presidential Chronicle lists “the facts, just the facts” of the presidents of the United States from President Truman to the present. It is nothing fancy; it is just the basics. It requires little to no creativity. Is the “skeleton” without the “muscle.”

**Description of Assignment – *What to do…***

**Step #1. Get a list of the presidents** from Truman to the present. Choose eight (8) of them to cover, but *not the current president*. Easy enough so far.

**Step #2. Research**the facts about each president. This is a list, not a research paper. It is a chronicle, not a novel. You need to have the following information: biographical data (birth, death, family background, etc.), pre-presidential career (education/training, background, jobs before presidency, experience prior to public service, etc.), and his presidential career (major events of his presidency, decision, actions, policies, etc.), and his life after being president.

**Step #3. Organize the material**based on a uniform style—you choose. Keep in mind the following: the format must be the same for all the presidents; don’t jump around; no paragraphs; no sentences; be precise and exact. Be sure to include a bibliography. You may include pictures, charts, tables, graphs, etc. if you would like.

**Step #4. Write a brief** analysis on one of the eight presidents you chronicled. It should be roughly 1-2 pages, or about three (3) good paragraphs of information. Consider the type of person he was. This analysis includes an evaluation on his time as president. Consider things he did right/wrong, good/bad. Think of what his legacy is or may be. Include lessons that can be learned from his presidency.

**Assessment of Assignment – *What I do with what you did…***

The project is worth one hundred (100) points—the same value as a test!!—based on the following grading rubric:

TITLE (4 pts)

Name for project, name of course, student name, date

PRESIDENTIAL LISTS (9 pts x 8 presidents = 72 pts)

Biographical Data

Pre-Presidential Career

Presidential Career

Post-Presidential Career

ANALYSIS (12 pts)

Of his person – positive/negative character traits

Of his presidency – good/bad decisions

Of his place – legacy

BIBLIOGRAPHY (5 pts)

“PIZZAZZ” FACTOR (7 pts) Creativity, originality, use of color, variety, computer generated v hand

generated, presumed effort, mechanics (spelling & grammar), etc.



**Please remember, you are on your own to complete this assignment.**

**Ask questions when necessary, but these are the instructions you need.**