

Distinguished Student Work

Emily
3/11/09

English 11
McCarthy Research HW Assignment

Fear of Communism in the 1950s:

- The number of people who are communists has always been relatively low, but they are dangerous because they really believe in what they are doing and gain people through literature and other propaganda (Websites 1 and 3).
- Communists published literature in two forms. They defined Propaganda as literature that conveys many ideas to a few people. They also write Agitation, which tells one idea to many people. They wrote many children's books to appeal to their impressionable minds, which scared those against the communists. (Website 2)
- Communists manipulate the truth in order to suit their needs. They tell lies over and over to make people believe them, because they know if you hear something often enough, you will accept it as the truth (Website 3).
- The McCarran Act, or National Security Act of 1950 required all subversives at large in the US to be fingerprinted and registered (Website 4).

Senator Joe McCarthy:

- Senator McCarthy was a senator in Wisconsin, and the height of his political career lasted four years, from 1950- 1954 (Website 5).
- On February 9, 1950, he made a speech in Wheeling, West Virginia, accusing members of the Department of State as being communists. However, he did it just to gain fame, because he had no idea if there actually were communists in the department (Website 5).
- The term "McCarthyism" was coined by Herbert Block a month later, to describe what McCarthy was doing. To some, the word was derogatory, to others, it was patriotic (Website 5).

The House of Un-American Activities Committee:

- The HUAC was formed to see if the names on the blacklist were actually communists. They held public hearings, and many people had to come to deny accusations against them (Website 6).
- The HUAC hearings were actually degradation ceremonies, held to denounce the names of those who were accused (Website 6).
- During this time, 150 people were put in jail, and two people were killed (Julius and Ethel Rosenberg) (Website 7).

The Hollywood Ten:

- In 1950, the Hollywood Ten Hearings led to the blacklist. Investigating show business led to publicity (Website 7).
- The book Red Channels was a compilation of over 150 people in show business who were accused of being affiliated with communism. By 1951, television networks wouldn't hire anybody whose name was in the book, or anyone who seemed controversial (Website 7).

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Works Cited:

- Website 1: <http://writing.upenn.edu/~afilreis/50s/schwarz1.html>
- Website 2: <http://writing.upenn.edu/~afilreis/50s/schwarz4.html>
- Website 3: <http://writing.upenn.edu/~afilreis/50s/schwarz6.html>
- Website 4: <http://writing.upenn.edu/~afilreis/50s/mccarran-act-intro.html>
- Website 5: <http://writing.upenn.edu/~afilreis/50s/mccarthy-bio.html>
- Website 6: <http://www.writing.upenn.edu/~afilreis/50s/navasky-chap10.html>
- Website 7: <http://www.writing.upenn.edu/~afilreis/50s/schrecker-blacklist.html>

McCarthyism Research Assignment Rubric

Dimensions:	Distinguished (4)	Proficient (3)	Developing (2)	Unsuccessful (1)
Quality of Information (Weight: 7)	Information clearly relates to the main topic. It includes several supporting details and/or examples.	Information clearly relates to the main topic. It provides 1-2 supporting details and/or examples.	Information clearly relates to the main topic. No details and/or examples are given.	Information has little or nothing to do with the main topic.
Amount of Information (Weight: 7)	An appropriate depth of research is made obvious as all topics are addressed with at least 2 bullets of information.	Most topics are addressed with at least 2 bullets of information.	Topics are addressed with at least 1 bullet of information.	One or more topics were not addressed.
Organization (Weight: 5)	Information is organized in a logical and meaningful manner, communicating findings from research effectively.	Information is organized in a logical and meaningful manner, communicating findings from research somewhat effectively.	Information is somewhat organized.	The information appears to be disorganized.
Sources (Weight: 3)	Both primary and secondary sources (information and graphics) are used and accurately documented in the desired format.	Both primary and secondary sources (information and graphics) are used, but a few are not documented in the desired format.	Both primary and secondary sources (information and graphics) are used, but many are not documented in the desired format.	Appropriate sources are either not used or not accurately documented.
Mechanics (Weight: 3)	No grammatical, spelling or punctuation errors are present.	Almost no grammatical, spelling or punctuation errors are present.	A few grammatical spelling, or punctuation errors are present and somewhat impede the reading of the information.	Many grammatical, spelling, or punctuation errors are present, impeding the reading and understanding of the information.

Total Score: 99

Comments: *Great job, Emily! I took off one point because your in-text citations were not exactly right.*