

Leadership in America: Dilemmas and Opportunities

Stamp through History



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United States Leaders *Stamp through History*

Introduction*

Are you a collector of baseball cards, video games, seashells, coins, comic books, jewelry, books, art, autographs, or how about stamps? Do you know that many people like you and me worldwide are stamp collectors including famous ones such as: Rock n roll former Beatle, John Lennon, United States Presidents, Franklin D. Roosevelt, Herbert C. Hoover, Dwight D. Eisenhower, the late Prince Rainer of Monaco, and Maria Sharapova, famous tennis player, just to name a few.

How does one learn about history through stamps?

Postage stamps serve as “ambassadors.” You too can be an “ambassador” by designing a United States postal stamp depicting a United States leader’s determination, obstacles/dilemmas and triumph. What qualities make a leader? Do leaders “get it right” the first time? How do leaders help or represent others? Your stamp will educate others about Amelia Earhart, Eleanor Roosevelt, Danica Patrick, or Jackie Robinson.

The Task

As an “ambassador” you and your team will choose one of the following leaders and entice others about Amelia Earhart, Eleanor Roosevelt, Danica Patrick or Jackie Robinson. It will be your job to read required books, research leader through provided websites, and design a stamp. When completed, the stamp created by the team will consist of the following requirements:

- **Leader’s name** on stamp
- Leader’s face with item/object that identifies their **profession**.
 - Danica Patrick wearing a racing car helmet
- Slogan or quote representing leader’s **determination**
 - “women like to do such things, and can!”
- Represent any **obstacles/dilemmas**
 - Eleanor Roosevelt, First Lady during the Great Depression
- Symbol/icon/picture/logo representing leader’s **triumph**
 - “Jackie Robinson became the first African American in the 20th century to participate in major league baseball.”
- **Date(s)** of important event(s)
- Denomination of stamp (*common stamps are forty-two cents*)
- **United States or U.S.** printed on stamp
- Design a **frame**, outside area of a stamp which usually consists of the country’s name and denomination.
- Color(s) in postage stamp is decided by team.
 - black and white sketch, use of colored markers, etc., limited cut and paste from magazines, internet pages, etc.
- Final project must be legible, neat, and created on the poster provided by the teacher.

The Process

1. Each team will consist of four students.
2. As a team choose one of the three readings: (Each team will receive two of the same book/article)
 - Amelia and Eleanor Go For a Ride
 - Forget the HYPE
 - A Legend in His Own Time
3. Partner read, clarify, and summarize your team's chosen book.
4. **One student will be the team's first recorder.** Team will discuss and complete graphic organizer labeled "Book Brainstorm" noted by recorder.
5. Team will research websites.
6. **Another student will be the team's second recorder.** Team will discuss and complete graphic organizer labeled "Website Brainstorm" noted by recorder.
7. **Another student will be the team's third recorder.** Team will decide symbols and wordings that best represent their leader and complete graphic organizer labeled "Symbols & Words" noted by recorder.
8. **Another student will be the material handler.** Student is responsible to gather/collect materials.
9. As a team create a rough draft of stamp constantly referring to graphic organizers.
10. Team/teacher conference
11. As a team create final copy of stamp.
12. **One student will volunteer to be presenter** as whole team stands by display.

Resources

- **Leader's Websites**
 1. www.ameliaearhart.com
 2. www.time.com/time/time100/leaders/profile/eleanor.html
 3. www.danicaracing.com/
 4. www.jackierobinson.com
 5. www.quotationspage.com/subjects/
 6. [list of people on United States postage stamps](#)
- **Stamp Websites**
 1. www.postalmuseum.si.edu
 2. www.stamps.org
 3. www.askphil.org

- **Books/Articles**

- * Anderson, Lars. *Forget the HYPE*. Sports Illustrated, May 19, 2008
- * Markham, Lois. *A Legend in His Own Time*. Kids Discover, January, 2007
- * Ryan, Pam Munoz. *Amelia and Eleanor Go For a Ride*. Scholastic, 2000

Evaluation

The following rubric will be used to grade your “Stamp through History” project. Refer to this rubric while reading, researching, brainstorming, and designing your leadership stamp. *Each requirement will be graded between 1 and 10.*

Leadership Rubric

- _____ Leader’s name
- _____ Leader’s profession
- _____ Slogan/quote on determination
- _____ Obstacles/dilemmas represented
- _____ Triumph represented
- _____ Date(s) of important event(s)

Stamp Rubric

- _____ Frame
- _____ Stamp’s denomination
- _____ Words “United States or U.S” on stamp
- _____ Legible and neat

Cooperative Groups – Five Bonus Points

- _____ Team worked well with one another

Total points

- 91-100 points** - **Advanced**
- 81- 90 points** - **Proficient**
- 71- 80 points** - **Adequate**
- 61- 70 points** - **Needs Improvement**
- 0- 60 points** - **Faulty**

Conclusion

Fantastic! You have officially become an “ambassador,” representative of your leader. You have succeeded in portraying a United States leader’s determination, obstacles/dilemmas, and triumphs by using your knowledge and creativity to design a United States postage stamp. You have enticed others to learn about your chosen leader as well as the great hobby of stamp collecting! *Great job, well done!*

Book Brainstorm

- **Book Title** _____
- **Leader's Full Name** _____
- **Leader's Profession** _____
- **Leader's determination – What made the leader “keep on going?”**

- **Leader's obstacles/dilemmas – What were some of the stumbling blocks the leader faced? Give examples and explanations.**

- **Leader's triumph – What did leader accomplish?**

- **List dates and related events**

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Student name _____

Student name _____

Student name _____

Student name _____

Website Brainstorm

• Website Title _____

• Leader's Full Name _____

• Leader's Other Accomplishments – Beside profession, what other beliefs/ causes did the leader feel deeply about?

• Leader's determination – Why and how did the leader continue to feel passionate about their profession/beliefs/causes?

• Additional leader's obstacles/dilemmas – Give examples and explanations.

Student name _____

Student name _____

Student name _____

Student name _____

Website Brainstorm

- **Leader's triumph – How did leader's achievements affect/shape/change others/United States/World?**

- **Other significant dates with explanation.**

Student name _____

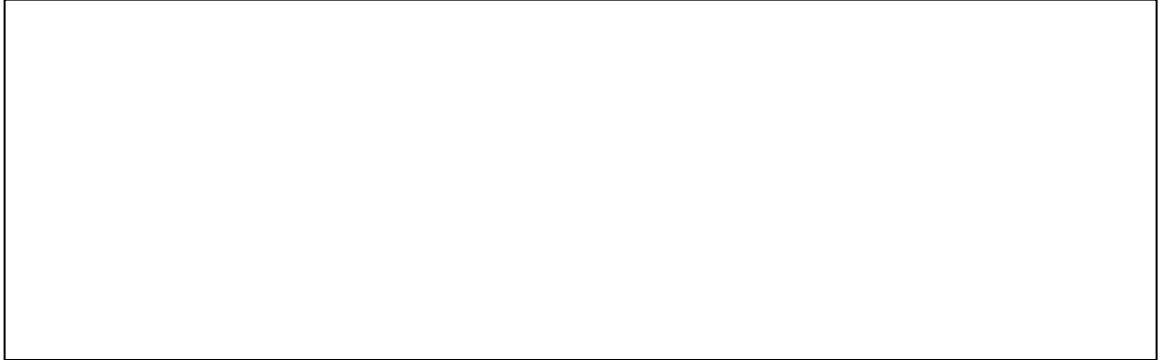
Student name _____

Student name _____

Student name _____

Symbols & Words

- Drawing of item/object indentifying leader's profession.



- Slogan or quote representing leader's determination.

- Drawing or wording representing leader's obstacles/dilemmas. What were the obstacles/dilemmas? Why was it an obstacle/dilemma? What made it an obstacle/dilemma? Leader's feelings?



Student name _____

Student name _____

Student name _____

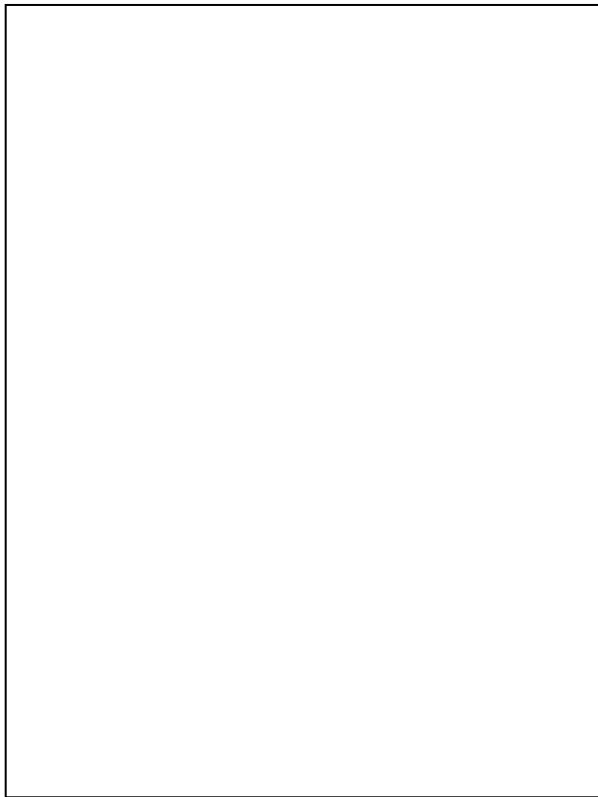
Student name _____

Symbols & Words

- Symbol/icon/picture/logo representing leader's triumph.



- Frame design.



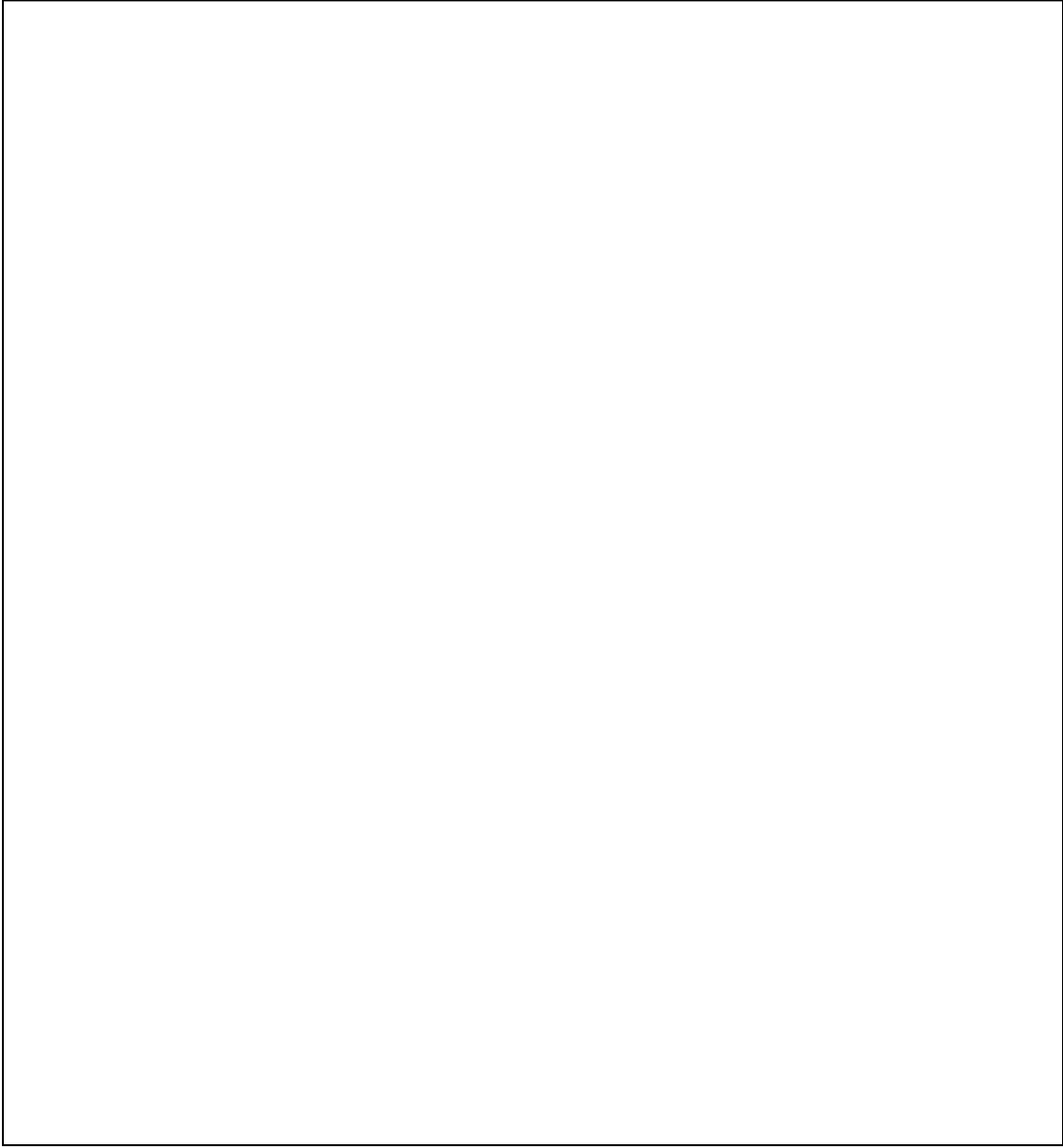
Student name _____

Student name _____

Student name _____

Student name _____

Rough Draft Postage Stamp



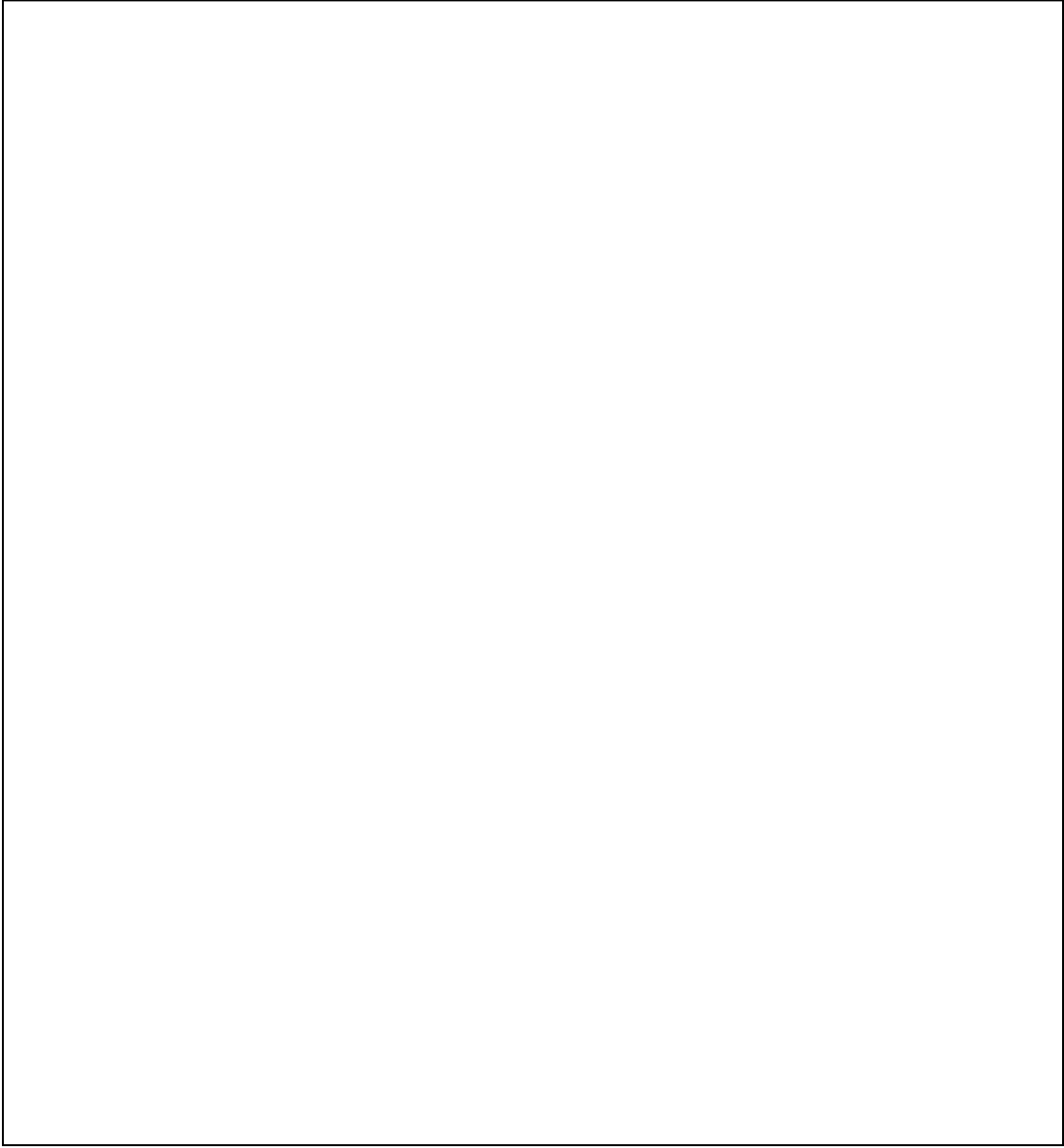
Student name _____

Student name _____

Student name _____

Student name _____

Postage Stamp



Student name _____

Student name _____

Student name _____

Student name _____

Soliloquy of a Postage Stamp

I am the world's greatest traveler. I've journeyed from pole to pole, and all the climes between . . . by dogsled, camel and horseback, by every land, sea and air conveyance; even by submarine, dirigible and rocket.

I am the world's greatest art and portrait gallery. The heroes and heroines of mythology pose within my borders. I portray the greats and the near-greats of all time; kings and queens, pharaohs and presidents, princes and princesses, poets and patriots, emperors and explorers, athletes, architects, aviators, artists and adventurers, tribal chieftains, inventors, moguls, musicians and martyrs, dramatists and novelists, shahs, sultans, saints and sinners. Even the vanished forms of the phoenix, dragon, centaur and unicorn appear upon my face.

I am the world's greatest picture chronicle and miniature encyclopedia. I map communities, countries and continents, and reveal views from every strange remote corner of the earth. I depict mountains and valleys; oceans, rivers, lakes, waterfalls, geysers, harbors, bridges and dams; native canoes, sailing ships and modern ocean liners; monuments and statues; castles, cathedrals, churches, missions, mosques, temples and ruins of temples; and every type of locomotion, from automobiles to zeppelins and steamboats to space ships. I delineate all manner of sports, handicrafts, customs, sacred rites and ceremonies; and nearly every variety of bird, animal, fish, fruit and flower.

I frame the horrors of war, the blessings of peace, the hardships of emigrations, the plight of indigence and the blight of famine. I illustrate the adventures of Don Quixote, the fairy tales of childhood and the legends of all civilizations. I reflect the symbols of art and culture, of natural resources and industry, of trade and commerce, of agriculture and architecture, and of all human endeavor. I commemorate the expeditions and voyages, and the inventions, discoveries and creations that make life worth living.

Millions of men, women and children are fascinated by me. Through my infinite variety they find boundless pleasure, relaxation and enchantment.

Yet . . . I am only a postage stamp!

Source – Harris, H.E. *Ambassador, World Stamp Album*. H.E. Harris & Co., 1963

*** Optional – Use as part of introduction**