

Hedy Lamarr: Not Just a Pretty Face

Carlee Page

Individual Performance

Junior Division

Process Paper: 450 words

This year I wanted to choose a unique topic, something that not a lot of people had heard of, so I hit the books, and I came across Hedy Lamarr. I found her in a book titled *Women in Science: 50 Fearless Pioneers Who Changed the World.* I chose her because she was very quiet about her invention, even though it would go on to be the most important element of all wireless communication we have today. No one really knows what she did, and I decided that made her a perfect topic.

My first step in research was to read her section in the women in science book, and from there I watched interviews of her to try and grasp how she acted and spoke. Then I dug into her invention, reading her patent, learning how it worked why she invented it. I also watched a few of her movie clips to get a feel for how she moved and how she expressed her emotions through body language. Last I read a lot of quotes to learn her pattern of speech, which as an immigrant, was sure to be different from mine, as a native English speaker. I started my research very late in the year, so I was worried I wouldn't get enough information but eventually I did.

I chose a performance because Hedy Lamarr was an actress and I thought it only fitting. I have some experience acting so I thought it would be a fun challenge and I was right. I also considered a documentary because it's similar to a film but I ultimately decided on performance. I chose to work by myself this year because last year I had quite a few issues with my partners and i didn't want to repeat that. I also didn't want to fall out of contact in case of another lockdown. I started my script as just Hedy creating a patent submission but I soon realized that it

wasn't long enough and didn't tell her full story. So I did some digging and found that she was inducted into the National Inventors Hall of Fame in 2014, 14 years after her death. So I incorporated a little bit of the ceremony at the end of my performance as sort of a conclusion.

My project is related to the theme this year because Hedy's invention of frequency hopping paved the way for all wireless communication we have today. Even though it didn't have a huge impact when she first invented it, the long term effect is so relevant to the topic, possibly the most relevant, I knew it would work. Without Hedy, none of our modern communication would even exist.

NHD PERFORMANCE COMPANION WORKSHEET

Purpose: Submitted with your process paper and annotated bibliography, this worksheet will help judges understand your performance's background, costumes, and props.

Instructions: Please complete this worksheet with information relevant to your project.

- There is an 11 page limit: 2 pages for performance information, overall scenario, and characters and 3 pages per section for background, costumes, props.
- The overall word count for this worksheet should not exceed 1,270 words.
- All student text in this worksheet must be in a 12 point font.
- Times New Roman, Arial, or Calibri fonts accepted.
- Remove sections if they are not applicable to your performance.
- Photos should be taken by the students and reflect the actual elements of your performance. Students can appear in the photos in this worksheet. No photo citations are necessary on this worksheet.
- Paperwork order: Title Page, Process Paper, Companion Worksheet, Annotated Bibliography
- A script is not required for your submission.

PERFORMANCE INFORMATION

Project Title	Hedy Lamarr: Not Just a Pretty Face
Student Name(s)	Carlee Page
Division/Category	Junior Individual
Performance Runtime	7 minutes and 58 seconds
Performance Companion Worksheet Word Count (starting with the performance overall scenario box; should not exceed 1,270 words)	633
Thesis	Hedy Lamarr's invention of spread spectrum frequency hopping was crucial to the advancement of all wireless technology we have today.
Performance Recording Link	https://drive.google.com/file/d/19Kh2nXlwIaGVEd7GFfpBIId_QnumJ3AGY/view?usp=sharing

PERFORMANCE OVERALL SCENARIO

Story Setting(s)- 60 *Word Limit*
Where does the performance take place?

In scenes 1 and 2, Hedy's office space in, in scene 3 the National Inventors Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony.

Timeframe- 60 *Word Limit*
When does the performance take place?

In scene 1, June 10, 1941, scene 2, August 11, 1942 and scene 3 takes place in 2014.

Story Synopsis - 100 *Word Limit*

The story starts out with Hedy writing the submission letter to apply her invention for patent and explains the elements of the machine, then moves on to her opening fan mail and coming across the acceptance letter. She fantasizes about what her invention could be used for and walks off camera to tell her partner, George, the good news. The scene changes and now shows a woman behind a podium labeled National Inventors hall of fame. She gives a speech honoring Hedy and praising her invention.

CHARACTERS

Remove rows as needed.

Character Name	Actor	Description/background for the character <i>10 Word Limit per Character</i>
Hedy Lamarr	Carlee Page	An actress and inventor in the 1940s.
NIHF Woman	Carlee Page	The woman responsible for honoring NIHF members.

PERFORMANCE BACKGROUND

Over the next 3 pages, provide photos and descriptions of your performance background. Please remove any scenes that don't apply to your performance.

BACKGROUND BY SCENE

Scene # 1

Photo

Photo Size should be 3x3 maximum

Description

What is the purpose of the background in this scene?

50 Word Limit



The background here shows Hedy's office space with some of her movie posters on the walls.

Props

BACKGROUND BY SCENE

Scene # 2

Photo

Photo Size should be 3x3 maximum

Description

What is the purpose of the background in this scene?

50 Word Limit



It is the same office space but now a year later, the only thing that has changed is the calendar.

Props

BACKGROUND BY SCENE

Scene # 3

Photo

Photo Size should be 3x3 maximum



Description

What is the purpose of the background in this scene?

50 Word Limit

The background in this scene shows a change in time period and location with a podium and a stage.

PERFORMANCE COSTUMES

Over the next 3 pages, provide photos and descriptions of your performance costumes. Please remove any scenes that don't apply to your performance.

COSTUME(S) BY SCENE

Scene # 1

Photo

Photo Size should be 3x3 maximum



Description

What is the purpose of the costume in this scene?

50 Word Limit

The costume helps show the time period through clothes and makes me resemble my character.

Props

COSTUME(S) BY SCENE

Scene # 2

Photo

Photo Size should be 3x3 maximum

Description

What is the purpose of the costume in this scene?

50 Word Limit



The costume helps show the change in time period and creates a visual difference between the two characters.

PERFORMANCE PROPS

Over the next 3 pages, provide photos and descriptions of your key performance props. Please remove any scenes that don't apply to your performance.

KEY PROP(S) BY SCENE

Scene #1

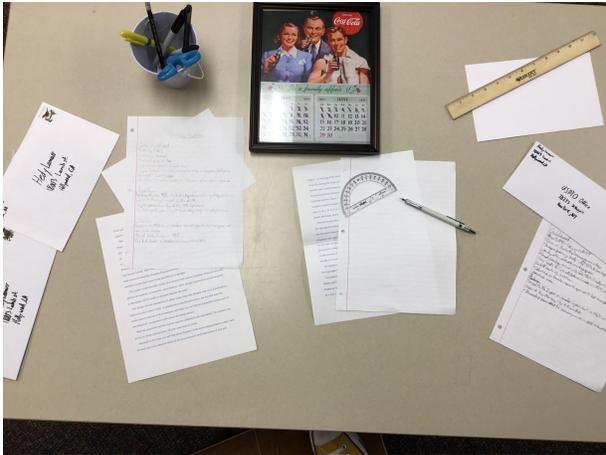
Photo

Photo Size should be 3x3 maximum

Description

What is the purpose of the props?

50 Word Limit



These pencils and papers show that this is the desk of a very busy inventor. They also help show when she is writing something. The calendar tells what date it is.

Props

KEY PROP(S) BY SCENE

Scene # 3

Photo

Photo Size should be 3x3 maximum

Description

What is the purpose of the props?

50 Word Limit



The podium shows that this scene is a speech to a large audience.

Works Cited

Primary Sources

Hollywood Screen Life. Amazon, images.app.goo.gl/sLtQsvKC7tVM8ice6. Accessed 25 Feb.

2021. This is a photo of the magazine *Hollywood Screen Life*. This issue features Hedy Lamarr on the cover. I used it as a piece of my background in the first and second scenes. I also used it as a reference of her face and how she looked.

A Lady Without Passport. 1950. *Collectors.com*,

www.collectors.com/entertainment-item/a-lady-without-passport-movie-poster-hedy-lamarr/7036072389272060780. Accessed 25 Feb. 2021. This is a movie poster of the film *A Lady Without Passport*. I used this in my background in the first and second scenes.

Markey, Hedy Kiesler, and George Antheil. "Secret Communication System." *Google Patents*, Google, 10 June 1941, patents.google.com/patent/US2292387A/en. Accessed 8 Feb.

2021. This website has Hedy's original description of the invention.

Samson and Delilah. 1949. *The Limited Edition Original Vintage Movie Posters*, 31 Mar. 2017,

originalvintagemovieposters.com/samson-and-delilah-original-hedy-lamarr-movie-poster/. Accessed 25 Feb. 2021. This is a poster for the movie *Samson and Delilah*. I used it in my background for the first and second scenes.

Secondary Sources

"Hedy Lamarr's patent." *Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum*, Smithsonian Institution, airandspace.si.edu/multimedia-gallery/4790640jpg#:~:text=Patent%20%23%20%2C292%2C387%20for%20a%20%22Secret,would%20give%20it%20more%20credibility.

Accessed 8 Feb. 2021. This website provided me with a photo of Hedy Lamarr's original

patent for the "Secret Communication System", as well as a small written description of it.

Ignotofsky, Rachel. "Hedy Lamarr: Inventor and Film Actress." *Women in Science: 50 Fearless Pioneers Who Changed the World*, New York City, Ten Speed Press, 2016, pp. 68-69.

This book is a secondary source that told me about the life of Hedy Lamarr. It was the original inspiration for my project. It told me about how her work was used in the Cuban Missile Crisis as well as how she met George Antheil.

"National Inventors Hall of Fame Announces 2014 Inductees." *Cision*, PR Newswire, 4 Mar. 2014,

www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/national-inventors-hall-of-fame-announces-2014-inductees-248359561.html. Accessed 23 Feb. 2021. This website gives a list of all the 2014 inductees and a description of what they did. It also had a date for when the ceremony was and a direct quote of what was said at the ceremony.

1930s Austrian Fashion. Pinterest,

www.google.com/search?q=1930s+austrian+fashion&rlz=1C5CHFA_enUS522US522&es_sm=91&biw=1214&bih=670&tbn=isch&tbo=u&source=univ&sa=X&ei=YDo8VZL2CMayggT4tYCQBA&ved=0CB0QsAQ#imgdii=x1C_07iRw4oDmM.;x1C_07iRw4oDmM.;hNdopFFo1GhocM:&imgcr=x1C_07iRw4oDmM%253A;_4952XkzzSIzRM;https%253A%252F%252Fs-media-cache-ak0.pinning.com%252F236x%252Fb8%252F81%252Fb3%252Fb881b300054d80617b634c6f03a0f2fd.jpg;https%253A%252F%252Fwww.pinterest.com%252FAlliesAxisWomen%252F1930s-40s-dirndl-tracht-and-dirndl-inspired-fashion%252F;236;332. Accessed 23 Feb. 2021. This photo of the fashion in 1930s Austria gave me inspiration for my costume.