

Pigeon Post: Post by Pigeon

Ayden Brophy & Andrew Reed

Senior Division Group Performance

Process Paper: 365 words

How did you choose your topic and how does it relate to the annual theme?

We chose our topic by trying to think outside of the box; one of the first things that came to mind for us was carrier pigeons, but we immediately shrugged it off, thinking that it sounded a little too dumb to be anything actually useful. Upon further research (we were looking things up as a joke) we found out that there was a lot of history that neither of us had ever learned of before. Pigeon Post relates to the annual theme of Communication by showing a perspective of history that one never stops to consider.

How did you conduct your research?

We knew what we wanted our points to be at the start, so we looked on trusted websites to see if they had anything, and sure enough, they did! It was a surprise to both of us to find that one out. We also used a college library's paper catalog as another well-verified source.

How did you create your project?

We first wrote our project, then looked for props and costumes, then recorded at a church in an empty room. Next, we uploaded the video from a phone to a computer and converted the file format for the competition's guidelines. Finally, we wrote out the process paper and turned in the finished project after watching it through to ensure it was all working.

What is your historical argument?

Our historical argument is that not all of history is always told- some stuff seems mundane, boring, or even flat-out ridiculous, but that doesn't mean it should be skipped over completely. Carrier pigeons have had a major influence throughout history, and we wanted to share this important, forgotten (maybe intentionally), and cool part of history.

In what ways is your topic significant in history?

In various instances throughout history, carrier pigeons have had a significant influence. Wars, Olympics, and essential messages would not have been delivered or the same without the carrier pigeon. They may not seem like they could make an impact on history, but it is quite a large one once you look into the consequences and results.

## PERFORMANCE INFORMATION

<b>Project Title</b>	Pigeon Post: Post by Pigeon
<b>Student Name(s)</b>	Ayden Brophy & Andrew Reed
<b>Division/Category</b>	Senior Division/Group Performance
<b>Performance Runtime</b>	9:49
<b>Performance Companion Worksheet Word Count</b>	318 words
<b>Thesis</b>	Pigeons have been a vital resource for communication for thousands of years. Transmissions throughout history and today, as well as the outcome of world wars, would not be the same without the use of carrier pigeons.
<b>Performance Recording Link</b>	<a href="https://drive.google.com/file/d/1krusjf6l3EMOIKlbJYx6KXR-S5B7uQ2c/view?usp=sharing">https://drive.google.com/file/d/1krusjf6l3EMOIKlbJYx6KXR-S5B7uQ2c/view?usp=sharing</a>

## PERFORMANCE OVERALL SCENARIO

Story Setting(s)- 60 *Word Limit*

*Where does the performance take place?*

This story takes place in an informational show type of scenario. There are two main narrators who create reenactments throughout the performance.

Timeframe- 60 *Word Limit*

*When does the performance take place?*

The performance takes place during a set show but has reenactments throughout history in their respective eras.

Story Synopsis - 100 *Word Limit*

Join two narrators as they take you on a flight of knowledge about an underappreciated bird: the Carrier Pigeon. During this performance, you will soar to new heights as we uncover some facts that you may not have known.

## CHARACTERS


*Remove rows as needed.*

Character Name	Actor	Description/background for the character <i>10 Word Limit per Character</i>
Narrator 1	Ayden Brophy	Narrator/Host
Narrator 2	Andrew Reed	Narrator/Host
British Chap	Andrew Reed	Impersonation of a British Newspaper
Greek Guy 1	Ayden Brophy	Says who won Olympics
Greek Guy 2	Andrew Reed	Suggests something new for Olympics
Roman Fellow	Andrew Reed	Gets word about his chariot race
Frontius	Ayden Brophy	Gets word about new war orders
Syrian Man	Andrew Reed	Pretends to ask if Ghengis Khan is near
Ghengis Khan	Ayden Brophy	Gives short history of his life through pigeon
Charles Bareswil	Andrew Reed	Inventor of application of the photographic method, explanation of it
Veteran 1	Ayden Brophy	Provides information about the Franco-Prussian War
Veteran 2	Andrew Reed	Provides information about the Franco-Prussian War
General	Ayden Brophy	Gets word about Thomas Crisp from the pigeon Crisp VC

Soldier	Andrew Reed	Provides insight into what war was like
Message receiver 1	Ayden Brophy	Gets word of war from Cher Ami
Message receiver 2	Andrew Reed	Gets word of war from Cher Ami
Scientist 1	Andrew Reed	Explanation of a pigeon's inner workings
Scientist 2	Ayden Brophy	Explanation of a pigeon's inner workings


# 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 <i>Photo Size should be 3x3 maximum</i>	Description <i>What is the purpose of the background in this scene?</i> <i>50 Word Limit</i>
	The two pigeons on the walls add a sense of mystery, as you don't know what the performance is truly about until after the intro. The pigeons also keep the information relevant throughout the scenes.

# 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 <i>Photo Size should be 3x3 maximum</i>	Description <i>What is the purpose of the props?</i> <i>50 Word Limit</i>
	This paper pigeon is used to represent when characters are communicating by bird, or to represent a pigeon in various scenes.

## Annotated Bibliography:

Blazich, Frank A. "Feathers of Honor: U.S. Army Signal Corps Pigeon Service in World War I, 1917–1918." *Army History*, no. 117 (2020): 32-51. Accessed January 14, 2021.

Daavid, Joel. *The History of Microfilm: 1839 To The Present*, [www.srlf.ucla.edu/exhibit/text/hist\\_page4.html](http://www.srlf.ucla.edu/exhibit/text/hist_page4.html). Accessed Jan. 5, 2021.

Dash, Mike. "Closing the Pigeon Gap." *Smithsonian.com*, Smithsonian Institution, 17 Apr. 2012, [www.smithsonianmag.com/history/closing-the-pigeon-gap-68103438/](http://www.smithsonianmag.com/history/closing-the-pigeon-gap-68103438/). Accessed Jan. 5, 2021.

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Gascoigne, Bamber. "History of History of Communication" HistoryWorld. From 2001, ongoing, <http://www.historyworld.net/wrldhis/PlainTextHistories>. Accessed Jan. 5, 2021.

Staughton, John. "Pigeon Post - How Do Homing (Messenger) Pigeons Know Where To Go?" *Science ABC*, 18 Jan. 2021, [www.scienceabc.com/eyeopeners/how-did-the-pigeon-post-work.html](http://www.scienceabc.com/eyeopeners/how-did-the-pigeon-post-work.html). Accessed Jan 21, 2021.

Turner, Daniel. "Carrier pigeons (world war 1)" Youtube, uploaded by simple history, Sept. 24 2018, [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2IeiBvx9zOs&ab\\_channel=SimpleHistory](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2IeiBvx9zOs&ab_channel=SimpleHistory). Accessed Jan. 7, 2021.

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