Biography of an African American in US History

Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Period\_\_\_\_\_

**Due Dates:**

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| **Tuesday, October 17 (3rd and 4th Periods)**  **Wednesday, October 18 (7th and 8th Periods)** |

**Look at these websites for ideas on African Americans whose biography you can read:**

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| * <http://www.u-s-history.com/pages/h3736.html> * <http://www.enchantedlearning.com/history/us/aframer/bios/> * <http://www.aawc.com/paa.html> * <http://totallyhistory.com/biography/famous-african-americans/> |

**Written Component/Critique:**

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| **Include the following components (an example is provided next to each requirement):**  **Reference Information for the Biography:** Grant, Matthew G.  Clara Barton. Mankato: Creative Education, 1974, **120 pages.**  **Selective Life Summary:**   Clara Barton realized early in her life that helping people is what she wanted to do. The list of accomplishments in her lifetime is numerous. She became a teacher, worked for the government in the patent office, and became a nurse during the Civil War, all by the age of forty. After the war, she became a lecturer and champion of women's right. World health problems found Clara traveling to Europe where she became involved with the International Red Cross.  She then established the American Red Cross to assist people during wartime as well as times of peace.  She worked in this endeavor for over twenty years.  Clara Barton spent the end of her life writing a book about her work, which she lived to see published before her death.  **Characteristics/personality traits:**         1.  Courageous        2.  Generous        3.  Determined        4.  Caring  **Accomplishments** You MUST cite examples from the book  1. Clara Barton wanted to help the soldiers during the war, so she received permission from the government to go to the battlefields. She provided supplies, cooked meals for the wounded, helped the doctors with surgeries, or just held the hand of a dying man. She said her place was "anywhere between the bullet and the battlefield."   2. Clara Barton established a free school so children of poor families could attend school also. She worked at this school as a teacher, receiving no pay. She also helped, after the war, with the dreaded task of tracking missing or dead soldiers.   3. Miss Barton did not allow government officials or doctors to stop her from helping the wounded or hurt. She once said, "If I can't be a soldier, I'll help soldiers." She also was determined to form the American Red Cross even though the people in the government resisted her efforts.  When the first local chapter of the American Red Cross helped during a forest fire, the President agreed the establishment of this organization was necessary.   4. Clara Barton cared for the sick after nursing her brother back to health at the tender age of eleven. She was a tireless worker, whom many called the "The Angel of the Battlefield." She was all that plus more.   1. **Evaluation criteria**: Use the criteria below to evaluate your book AND provide examples from the text to support what you say.  [NOTE: sample responses have not been provided.] 2. **Authentic:** Is the book accurate and as authentic as research can make it?  Give an example. 3. **Objective:** Does the author allow his/her own biases to influence the writing? Give an example from the text to support what you say. 4. **Whole Person:** Is the **whole person** portrayed? Are any of the events in the person's life sensationalized? 5. **Details:**  Does the author select details carefully to truly reveal the subject?  Give an example from the text. 6. **Theme:** Does the theme make a fundamental statement about the person's life and provide a unified view of the person? Give an example. 7. **Literary Style:**  Is the style pleasing?  Is it difficult to comprehend? Provide an example to support your answer. 8. **Interest:**  Does the person's life offer interest and meaning to today's child.  Cite an example. 9. **Understand the past or present:** Will knowing this figure help children understand the past or present?  Give an example from the text to support your answer. 10. **Widen their views:**  Can the story widen children's views or possibilities for their own lives?  Cite an example.   **Personal Comments:**  Clara Barton is a remarkable individual who has contributed greatly to our world and history.  She is a true role model for all children, and . . . (***continue***). |

**Brown Bag Assignment for Class Presentation:**

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| Bring ten items that represent your person and what you learned from her biography. Be prepared to present and explain the items. |