

ID-SIG FORMAT

Students of social studies are required to define thousands of terms pertaining to the subject. We have a distinct format for that process – ID/SIG (Identification / Significance). When doing the many ID/SIGS for this class you will use the following format. With some practice, you will find these easy to complete. The writing of ID-SIGS will carry over to U.S. history next year where you will find most teachers also require them.

- A. Identification - The ID is the traditional definition of the term. Who? What? Why? When? Where? Always list a date when applicable.
 - B. Significance - This is the importance of an event or person. This may represent a far more encompassing concept or pattern. Included in the Significance would also be the effects of the event or person. Do not re-write the identification. Answer this question. How did this person or event change the world?
- SIG verbs - Try to work in one of these words, represents, demonstrates, illustrates, is evidence of, is an example of, symbolizes or indicates.

Sample ID/SIGS

1. Crusades: 11th-14th centuries, Western European Christians attempted to regain the Holy Land from the Muslims. Muslims prevailed.
Sig:
 1. Exposed Western Europeans to Asian goods in the Mid East such as spices, silks, perfumes, and textiles.
 2. Contributed to Western Europeans desire for Asian goods.
 3. Stimulated the quest for a transportation route to avoid expensive Italian monopoly.
2. House of Burgesses: The Representative assembly established in Virginia in 1619 to govern affairs.
Sig:
 1. Established the "precedent" of representative assemblies in the colonies. "miniature parliaments"
3. Tobacco: A weed that was used for smoking. It was first introduced into Virginia by John Rolfe in 1616.
Sig:
 1. The economic fortunes of Virginia were reversed with prosperity following the growing of tobacco.
 2. Tobacco would remain a staple crop of Virginia's economy for years.

