Napoleon WebQuest Directions

Introduction: The WebQuest starts with the year 1794. In France, the Revolution has left the country hungry for stability. The French have lived through tumultuous years of Enlightenment ideals, overthrowing of the monarchy, and the Reign of Terror of Robespierre. A powerful General, Napoleon Bonaparte is drawing the popularity of the People. Napoleon rose to power in 1799 and declared himself Emperor of France, determined to spread his empire at any cost.

Napoleon Bonaparte: the man, the myth, the legend. What makes Napoleon a figure of such epic proportions? Through this WebQuest, you will uncover the impact Napoleon had on a local, national and global scale. By gaining an understanding on the role Napoleon had on history, we can understand how his character has transcended generations and had a lasting impact on world history.

With the End of the Reign of Terror as our beginning, we will examine the growth of Napoleon in Stage 3 (The National Convention → Committee of Public Safety → The Reign of Terror) of the French Revolution and the beginnings of his take over at the end of Stage 4 (The Directory → Napoleon) of the Revolution. Your Quest is to examine the actions of Napoleon from one of the roles listed below.

Essential Question: Is Napoleon a hero or a villain to the French people?

Step 1: Select ONE of the roles listed below. Links have been provided to you with information about each role, but you are welcome to locate other resources pertaining to the perspective that you select.

1. Soldier in Napoleon’s army [http://www.pbs.org/empires/napoleon/n_war/soldier/page_1.html]
3. Member of the bourgeoisie (middle class) [http://www.historyguide.org/intellect/lecture15a.html]

Step 2: See the worksheet attached to this packet. Answer the questions that correspond to each website listed on the worksheet. Base your answers on the information provided by the given website, do not conduct additional research. You may answer the questions with a paper and pencil OR use Google Drive to store your work. Remember to maintain your chosen perspective.

Step 3: In character (see Step 1) decide whether Napoleon is a hero or a villain.

Step 4: Evaluate your findings based on your character’s perspective. To do this you may:

1. Create a detailed report card for Napoleon. Your report card MUST include at least 5 different categories in which you assign Napoleon a grade as well as an overall grade. The grades that you assign should be based on the perspective that you took. To conclude your report card, you must write a one-paragraph explanation of why you assigned Napoleon the grades that you did.
2. Write a diary entry in character. In your diary entry you must clearly establish your position in society and provide evidence as to why Napoleon is a hero or a villain. Provide specific evidence, just like you would if you were actually writing in your diary during the time period. Diary entries are to be a minimum of two paragraphs in length.
3. Create a bumper sticker that expresses your character’s viewpoint on Napoleon. Your bumper sticker is a form of propaganda and should have both images and text; feel free to look up examples of bumper stickers and propaganda online. On the back of your bumper sticker, or clean paper, you are to provide a one-paragraph explanation of the details that you crafted on the bumper sticker (explain word and image choices etc.).

Questions to Consider: Your finished product should somehow respond to the questions below.

1. How has Napoleon's reign impacted your life personally?
3. How has Napoleon achieved the goals of the Revolution?
4. Do you support Napoleon's idea that France's empire should encompass all of Europe? Why or why not? How this would benefit or hurt you?
The Reign of Terror ended with the execution of Robespierre. The Constitution of 1795 created a five-man Directory and a two-house legislature elected by male citizens of property to ruled France. By 1802, the French government was taken over by a popular general who became the most powerful leader in Europe, Napoleon Bonaparte. How did Napoleon gain popularity in France?

| Question: Who was Napoleon? Explain his upbringing and how he gained such popularity in France. |
| Answer: |

Circle One: Hero OR Villain (base your decision on your character)

The Directory lost control of the political situation and the people in France. The only control that they had was over the army. Abbie Sieyes (Speaker from the National Assembly – you read one of his pamphlets) urged Napoleon to stage a “Coup d’état” (blow of state).

| Question: How did Napoleon gain power in France? |
| Answer: |

Circle One: Hero OR Villain (base your decision on your character)
Napoleon Restores Order to France
The French were desperate for strong leadership. The people looked to Napoleon to provide a strong central government and to achieve the goals of the Revolution such as equality in law, due process, natural rights, the power of citizens over monarch, freedom of religion, freedom of speech, and separation of powers.

Question: How did Napoleon achieve the goals of the French Revolution?
(Hint: Define lycées, concordat, and Napoleonic Code)

Answer:

Circle One: Hero OR Villain (base your decision on your character)

Napoleon Creates an Empire (1804) http://www.louvre.fr/en/oeuvre-notices/consecration-emperor-napoleon-and-coronation-empress-josephine-december-2-1804 (you can also see the pdf source above for more information on Napoleon’s coronation)
In 1804, Napoleon was crowned Emperor and began his conquest in Europe.

Question: Why would Napoleon crown himself?
Answer:

Circle One: Hero OR Villain (base your decision on your character)
Question: What was Napoleon’s vision of Europe?
Answer:

| Circle One: Hero  OR  Villain (base your decision on your character) |