

Kingdom of Caid - Arts and Sciences Fair and Pentathlon

Class: 7.6.2 - Compositional: Research Paper

Skill Level: _____ Entry #: _____

Brief Description of Entry: _____

Total Points: _____

Placement: _____

Execution/Analysis: 45 possible points

- Quality of research question: The research question is clearly defined in both the introduction and conclusion. The research question is designed to be answered by analysis of data or information. Its scope is appropriate (i.e. neither too broad for the 15-page maximum, nor too narrow).
- Analysis: The topic addressed by the research question were explored with evidence cited from multiple sources that was analyzed and synthesized to convincingly answer the question. The use of supposition and extraneous information as evidence was avoided. The historical context of the topic was also integrated in the body of the paper and supported by cited evidence.
- Creativity: The research question explores a focused, and preferably intriguing, aspect of a subject or uses data creatively to answer the research question.
- Authenticity: The topic is of great interest to a medieval audience, or at least to an SCA audience.

Execution/Analysis Points: _____

Sources/Documentation: 35 possible points

- Appropriate sources: As appropriate to a research paper, the sources are focused and at least reliable; the more sources that are scholarly – footnoted and peer-reviewed – the better. Focused secondary sources are preferred over general, encyclopedic tertiary sources, and primary sources are preferred when they are available.
- Use of sources: The information in each source is used thoroughly in the providing balanced evidence for the research question or its historical context. Information from various sources is synthesized and analyzed, rather than just listed. Sources providing extraneous information are avoided.
- Scope of sources: A broad array of scholarly sources is used to explore the question.

Sources/Documentation Points: _____

Style/Mechanics: 20 possible points

- Mechanics: The paper uses standard English, proper punctuation and grammar, and appropriate sentence and paragraph structure. All information needing citation is cited with internal citations, footnotes or endnotes in a standard style that includes page numbers. A bibliography in a standard style is included.
- Style: The introduction provides historical context for the research question. Within the body of the paper, the author has synthesized and analyzed information from the various cited works, and has avoided extraneous material that distracts from the paper's focus. The organizational flow of the information is consistent throughout the paper and apparent to the reader. The writing style is clear and is not terse, too elaborate, or repetitive. The conclusion supports the author's insight into the paper's question within the historical context.
- Workmanship: The paper has a professional appearance that is inviting and pleasing to the reader (cover, formatting and font choices for body of paper and headings, margins, spacing, paper, etc.) Any graphics are readable and have captions, and their layout and captions enhance the flow of the paper.

Style/Mechanics Points: _____

