Your Name

Professor Utzman

ENGL 2331-#

Day Month Year

**Exploratory Research Assignment**

1. **List your first time period:**

The first time period that I have chosen for this assignment is the “ Islamic Golden Age” that dates from 632 to mid 13th century.

**2) List your second time period (ex. Ancient Greece, Tang Dynasty China):**

The second period that I have chosen for this assignment is the “ Ancient Greece” that ranges from 800 BC to 5th century AD.

**3) List three major authors from your first time period and their famous books or writings:**

The major authors from the Islamic Golden Age and their contributions to the field of literature are as follows:

1. ***Avicenna*** *(980 – 1070)* He wrote a book named “Kitab al Shafa” commonly known as “book of Healing” in which he wrote about Greek philosophy and Muslim theology.
2. ***Ibn Khaldun****(1332-1406)* He wrote “Muqidammah” which is the description of how Muslims were dominate by Mongols.
3. ***Averros****(1126-1198)* Ibn Rushd wrote on law and even on medicine. He was a supporter of Aristotalian ideas as he wrote in his book “ The Incoherence of the Incoherence”.

**4) List three major authors from your second time period and their famous books or writings:**

The major authors of this period are as follows:

*01* ***Sophocles****(496-406BC)* He is famous for his classis such as Oedipus Rex.

*02* ***Plato****(424-348BC)* He is famous for writing The Republic and Symposium.

*03* ***Aristotle****(384-322)* Only 47 of his works are still present. He is famous for his influence in Catholic education and theology.

**5) List at least three major historical events that occurred in your first time period.**

**01 The Translation Movement** Caliphs Harun-al-Rashid inititated this movement in which scholarly works of Greek were translated formally into Arabic for founding House of Wisdom.

**02 Introduction to paper through Tang Dynasty** The clash among Abbasid Caliphate and Chinese Tang Dynasty resulted in the production of paper in Middle East.

**03 Invention of Algebra** al-Kwarizmi published a book which framed the basis for algebra.

**6) List at least three major historical events that occurred in your second time period.**

**01 Introduction to the Olympic Games** This festival was introduced in 776BC in the honoue of Greek gods and goddesses.

**02 Coin Currency Introduced** In 600BC, coin currency was introduced by the Greek.

**03 Second Peloponnesian War: Athens VS Sparta** The war between the major two cities Athens and Sparta took place in 431BC.

**7) In 100 words minimum, describe at least three attitudes or values expressed by authors in your first time period. Please use proper MLA in-text citations for your sources in this section.**

Poetry was regarded as the highest form of art, and the poet was considered like a prophet or king when people gathered for market(Jonathan). The attributes of work done in Golden Islamic Era include morality, inventions and philosophy. These were the themes writers of that era were mainly concerned about. As it was the time of flourishing Islamic reign throughout the world so they mostly wrote of the innovations of that time or the philosophy.

**8) In 100 words minimum, describe at least three attitudes or values expressed by authors in your second time period. Please use proper MLA in-text citations for your sources in this section.**

In the ancient Greek time period, the themes of war are quite eminent. The wars that took place laid great impact on the literature. In the Classical era, it was the period of tragedies. Prominent writers of that time period were Sophocles who wrote tragedy such as Oedipus Rex. Moreover Lyric was being produced in poetry as well as Drama. Plays were performed in theaters for public amusement and apart from that particular amusement plays were mainly concerned with morals and ethics. It was a part of their religious practice as well to sing chorus and they used to do it at their festivals(“Ancient Greek Literature”).

**9) List three major writing techniques, styles, or forms used in your first time period.**

The poetry of Arabs was filled with the element of Praise, Monorhyme and Elegy.

**10) In 100 words minimum, explain the origins of the three techniques/styles/forms you listed above. Please use proper MLA in-text citations for your sources in this section.**

In the pre-Islamic era, the poetry mainly consisted of praise because people thought it would be consisting magical qualities as for them poetry was a source to cast a spell around a sane person. Poetry was more than a talent for them and poets were considered magicians at that time. The strict rules of Islamic writings lead to monorhyme. This lead to formalism in their work. Moreover the earliest known poetic form in Arabic literature is elegy(“Islamic Arts”). Elegy is a mode to mourn for the beloved ones so this style was liked by emperors alot for their self pleasure.

**11) List three major writing techniques, styles, or forms used in your second time period.**

The techniques of Lyric poetry,philosophical forms and epics were mainly used by Greek writers and poets.

**12) In 100 words minimum, explain the origins of the three techniques/styles/forms you just listed above. Please use proper MLA in-text citations for your sources in this section.**

Lyric poetry was quite influential in the beginning of Greek poetic traditions. Sappho, Alcaeus, Pindar were the first known to write in the genere. It was sung in chorus by a group of people and lyric originated from the word Lyre. Mostly philosophers did not write but their work was in form of speech or debate. The portrayal of speech was used as “The Republic” was a long dialogue describing an ideal government(“Ancient Greek Literature”). Epics were among the most favourite form of Greek writers and poets in which they narrated the heroic tales of their famous personalities that were warrioes or kings or their gods.

**Works cited**

“Ancient Greek Literature.” *Ancient History Encyclopedia*, https://www.ancient.eu/Greek\_Literature/. Accessed 3 Apr. 2019.

“Islamic Arts.” *Encyclopedia Britannica*, https://www.britannica.com/topic/Islamic-arts. Accessed 3 Apr. 2019.

Jonathan, Bloom. *Islam: A Thousand Years of Faith and Power*. Yale University Press, 2002.