



Name: _____

Period: _____

RADIUM DIALS PROJECT

DIRECTIONS

Part I: Read the “Radium Dials” text handout detailing the story of the women who painted watch dials for the Radium Dial Company. The paint used in the early 20th century to paint watch dials for the military was made of radium. Why? Because radium glowed, making the watches more useful. There was a problem with these watch dials though, as you’ll read about in the article.

Part II: After reading the article, you are to choose one project from the list below. You must fulfill all the requirements of a given project to earn full points for this assignment.

Below is a list from which you can choose the project you would like to complete. Remember, the project you complete must include all components detailed in the description.

1. **LETTER TO THE EDITOR:** Write a letter to the editor of a local newspaper in one of the towns in which this dial painting took place. Detail the procedure of dialpainting, the dangers, the parties at fault, and some proposed solutions.
 2. **HEADLINE NEWS STORY:** Write a news story as though you are an investigative reporter that has just learned of radium dialpainting. Your news story must include all of the relevant details *in your own words*. Properly cite any sources whose information you include in your article.
 3. **ADVERTISEMENT:** Create a powerful advertisement for the Radium Dial Company. This ad should include all of the usual components of a good advertisement: The company and product names, a catchy slogan, a testimonial on why their product is better than the competitors, picture(s) of the products, a brief description of the product, pricing, and information on where/how to buy the products.
 4. **EDITORIAL CARTOON:** Create an editorial cartoon like those seen on the Op/Ed page of major newspapers. Your cartoon should make a strong and persuasive statement about the issue and do so in a satirical or sarcastic manner. The cartoon should include text and an artistically-created picture (simple stick figure drawings will not earn you full points here!)
 5. **PERSONAL NARRATIVE:** Write a personal narrative from the perspective of one of the women who was affected by the practice of dialpainting. This personal narrative should include the working conditions faced by these women, the dangers of the job, and the after-effects felt by the person writing the letter.
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GRADING

Regardless of which project you chose, your project will be graded for the following criteria:

1. **Completeness of Content:** up to 10 points for including significant detail
2. **Convincing:** up to 5 points for a convincing, realistic representation of the issue
2. **Neatness and Grammar:** up to 5 points for correct grammar and neatness
3. **Creativity:** up to 5 points for a project that is of a creative nature and original to you

Total Possible Points: **25**