

Library Research and Presentation

In this project, you will use the International Energy Agency (IEA) website to find an interesting or significant piece of energy information about another country. You will then expand your information by finding at least three periodical articles of at least 500 words in length that provide additional information about the energy use in that country.

Examples of items of interest may include:

- How much nuclear power is Japan using? How has it changed in the last 15 years?
- How much renewable energy is Norway producing? How much of that is hydroelectric power? Could the US do this?
- How has Germany's mixture changed in the last 20 years? Has the amount of coal changed? Has the amount of nuclear power changed?

After you have found your references, you'll need to electronically fill out the Source Relevance form from our Blackboard page.

Keep in mind that the issues of energy and climate are rapidly changing, so the more recent the article, the better. A rough rule might be that you probably don't want an article over than 8 years old unless you're using it for historical information.

Once you have the energy distribution data from the other country, compare that country's distribution to the distribution from the United States. How is it different? How is it the same? If it's different and you think the other country's is a better mix, is there something stopping the United States from having that mix? If you think the United States as a better mix, what is stopping the other country from having our mix?

You must review the progress of their research with the reference librarian at least two weeks before their presentation is due.

Finally, you will present your information to the class in a presentation of 8 to 10 minutes. Students must practice their presentation at least once with a Speech coach in the Speech Assistance area in the Learning Commons. When you turn in your presentation, you must also turn in a copy of the "Speech/Presentation Focus Sheet" with the coach's comments on it.

Note that this project **should not take this much time or effort** as long you work on it ahead of time. If you wait until the week before the deadline to start worrying about it, you will not be able to practice your talk or to get the assistance of a research librarian.

Scoring for Research Presentation Project

Category 1: Introduction

1. (5 points) Did you turn in your country name within three weeks?
2. (5 points) Did you find an interesting or significant item from the IEA web site?
3. (15 points) Did you practice your talk at the Speech Assistance Center and obtain a copy of the Speech/Presentation Focus Sheet from your practice presentation **at least one week before** your final project was due?

Category 2: Library Research:

4. (5points) Did you find three additional references that expanded on your item from the IEA web site?
5. (5 points) Were the items appropriate? That is, did the articles and the item from the IEA website all tie together?
6. (15 points) Did you meet with the research librarian **at least two weeks** before your project was due to review your progress?

Students must make deadlines 1, 2, 3, and 6 in order to present.

Part 3: Presentation:

7. (25 points) By the end of the day of your presentation, did you should have have Emailed the following to the instructor or uploaded into Showbie:
 - a. A typed copy of your source-relevance questionnaire
 - b. A bibliography of your talk. That is, the articles you used in research in footnote form.
 - c. A electronic copies of your articles you used as references
 - d. A typed outline of your talk
8. (5 points) Did you stay within the 8 to 10 minute time limit?
9. (10 points) Were your Powerpoint slides clear, readable and contained no spelling errors? (See Guidelines attached)
10. (10 points) Was your presentation clear and well-rehearsed or did the speaker stumble numerous times? Did it flow logically or jump back and forth?

Talk Format for VCM courses: Talks will be presented via Zoom. Speakers should make sure they understand the technology of Zoom and how to upload their slides. The format of your talk is up to you. You don't need to show yourself if you like and can do the entire talk doing a voice-over your PowerPoint presentation.

Speakers should be ready to go 15 minutes before their formal appointed time. Speakers that are not prepared to start at that time and date will lose 40 points. Speakers may swap times at no penalty if both speakers agree. There will be no other exceptions to this rule.

Talk Details

You are research the energy usage in another country and present an 8 to 10 minute talk on the results of your research. A rough rule of thumb when you give a Power Point presentation, is that it takes about 2 minutes for every slide. If you have more than around 5 to 7 slides, you should make sure to time your talk very closely.

Here is a suggested outline of your talk:

- 1) **Introduction to the country.** Tell me the name, show me a map of where it is and tell me its size comparing it to something I would know (e.g. does it have as many square miles as the state of Wisconsin? Does it have a population as big as Chicago? Is its population greater than the United States?) If there something else specifically important about the country, you can mention that here. (e.g. Is it an absolute dictatorship? Did it used to be part of the Soviet Union?)
- 2) **General Energy Mix:** Show me a recent plot of the energy mix of that country. A comparison to the United States would be good (e.g. is the percentage of energy from coal twice as great as the United States? Is the mix roughly the same as the United States?)
- 3) **Results of your research:** Tell me the interesting things you found out about the energy use of this country. Why does it have this mix? What about this country allows them to have this mix? Was this mixed forced on them by other forces? To they have interesting plans for the future? Are they importing or exporting a lot of energy? Is energy extremely expensive in this country?

Be as quantitative as you can be. Examples include: How much does electricity cost in this country compared to the US? What is the capacity of a particular generating plant in gigawatts? What percentage of their energy comes from hydroelectricity?

Remember the situation with energy production and use changes rapidly, so the more recent the article the better.

- 4) **Optional:** What was the country's Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) for the Paris occurs? What was their CO2 emission's goal? How are they doing on meeting that goal?
- 5) **Optional:** Comment on comparing background of this mix to the US. If there is something impressive about the energy mix of this country (e.g. they get 80% of their energy from renewables), tell me why the US could or could not use this as a model.

Guidelines for Using Audio/Visual Aids

Use of visual/audio aids will be evaluated using the following criteria:

- **Considered objective and audience**
 - Does the visual/audio aid *enhance audience understanding* of the information/topic being presented?
 - Did the speaker consider the audience in choosing the visual/audio aid?
- **Large enough and easy to read**
 - Is the visual image large enough to see easily from any spot in the classroom? Is audio easy to hear from any spot in the room (or not too loud)?
 - Is the image clear (i.e. not pixilated)?
 - Are visual images uncluttered? Communicating one piece of information at a time?
- **Color and text appropriate**
 - Did the speaker follow guidelines for use of color (dark text on light background/light text on dark background)?
 - Does the use of color (background and text) enhance communication of the message?
 - Did the speaker follow the **rule of 5x5** (nor more than 5 lines of text, no more than 5 words per line) ?
 - Is the **font** clean, clear, and easy to read?
- **Illustrates verbal message; provides interpretation/explanation**
 - Does the speaker incorporate the visual image or audio into the presentation (i.e. reference the visual/audio aid? Provide a *reason to look or listen?*)
 - Does the speaker provide a *clear explanation* of the visual/audio aid?
- **Effective timing and placement**
 - Does the speaker incorporate the visual/audio aid at a time when it is relevant?
 - Does the speaker *use it and lose it?*
 - Does the speaker show evidence of having practiced with his/her visual/audio aids?
- **Animations**
 - Did every included animation make a clear point effectively? Or were they included just to be clever or cute? Were they merely distracting?