Words and Evidence

Use historical sources without losing your own voice

USH.P.4.2.B "Integrate quotes and summaries of research findings into written products while avoiding plagiarism."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline each direct quote, circle the words that name its source, and number each summary of a research finding. Notice how the writer makes borrowed evidence traceable.

From Exclusion to Redress

1. In February 1942, President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed Executive Order 9066 after the attack on Pearl Harbor. The order did not name Japanese Americans, but it authorized military areas "from which any or all persons may be excluded" (Executive Order 9066, 1942). Those few words mattered: they gave military officials broad power to remove people from designated places. The National Archives reports that the resulting policy forced about 120,000 people of Japanese ancestry from their homes; roughly two-thirds were U.S. citizens (National Archives, research guide on Japanese American incarceration).

2. The Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians investigated the removals decades later. Its 1983 report, Personal Justice Denied, found that military necessity did not justify the policy. The report identified "race prejudice, war hysteria and a failure of political leadership" as major causes (Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians, Personal Justice Denied, 1983). Quoting that list preserves the commission's forceful wording; summarizing its conclusion about military necessity keeps the paragraph from becoming a string of borrowed sentences. Together, the quote and the summary support a historical claim rather than standing alone.

3. Congress revisited the policy in the Civil Liberties Act of 1988. The law acknowledged that "a grave injustice was done" to Japanese Americans and provided an official apology and payments of $20,000 to eligible survivors (Civil Liberties Act of 1988). Those words do not erase the loss of homes or time spent in confinement. They do show that a later federal law judged the wartime policy differently from the government that imposed it. A writer could use this law alongside the 1942 order to trace a change in federal policy, while naming both documents so readers can locate the evidence themselves.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Which exact words from Executive Order 9066 does the passage quote? How does the writer identify their source?

2. Write one sentence that summarizes the commission's finding about military necessity in your own words. Name the source.

3. Why does the passage credit the National Archives even though it summarizes the Archives' finding instead of quoting its words?

4. A student writes, "The policy grew out of race prejudice, war hysteria and a failure of political leadership." Revise the sentence so the borrowed wording is clearly quoted and credited.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write one paragraph of 70 to 90 words explaining how the federal government's view of exclusion changed between 1942 and 1988. Use one short, credited quote from the Civil Liberties Act and summarize the National Archives' finding about removal and citizenship in your own words, with credit.

Words and Evidence

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline each direct quote, circle the words that name its source, and number each summary of a research finding. Notice how the writer makes borrowed evidence traceable. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Which exact words from Executive Order 9066 does the passage quote? How does the writer identify their source?	**The quote is "from which any or all persons may be excluded." The citation names Executive Order 9066 and gives its year, 1942.**
2	Write one sentence that summarizes the commission's finding about military necessity in your own words. Name the source.	**In Personal Justice Denied, the commission concluded that military necessity did not justify the removal policy.**
3	Why does the passage credit the National Archives even though it summarizes the Archives' finding instead of quoting its words?	**The numbers and citizenship finding come from the National Archives. A summary still needs credit so readers know where the information came from.**
4	A student writes, "The policy grew out of race prejudice, war hysteria and a failure of political leadership." Revise the sentence so the borrowed wording is clearly quoted and credited.	**The commission attributed the policy to "race prejudice, war hysteria and a failure of political leadership" (Personal Justice Denied, 1983).**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Executive Order 9066 gave military officials power to exclude people from designated areas, but the consequences fell heavily on Japanese Americans. According to the National Archives, about 120,000 people of Japanese ancestry were forced from their homes, and most were U.S. citizens. Decades later, Congress acknowledged that "a grave injustice was done" (Civil Liberties Act of 1988). Reading the two documents together shows a federal government moving from authorizing exclusion to formally recognizing harm.

Accept accurate paraphrases that name the source, even if students use different wording. For the open task, check that the quote is exact and credited, the Archives finding is paraphrased and credited, and the paragraph explains the change in federal policy.