JACKSON WHITED

1. How did you choose your topic and how does it relate to the annual theme?

TOTAL WORD COUNT: 484

I chose my topic because I was named after a Marine who served in WWII. I chose the Code Talkers because I have always had a fascination for the history of war, and when I heard about a group of native American Marines that communicated with each other in their native language for America in WWII, I knew that it was the topic for me. The reason that this topic is connected to the theme of communication is that the Navajo Code Talkers communicated with each other over telephones and radios in a language that next to nobody but they could understand.

2. How did you conduct your research?

I conducted my research by starting with what database sources my teachers recommended. Gale and Context Middle School was helpful and so was American History, although much of my information and images came from websites, including cia.gov, and Navajo Nation. All of my sources that I used were helpful in giving me facts and images for my project. I kept track of all this information by entering my sources into Noodletools for quick access when I needed resources for my project.

3. How did you create your project?

The reason that I chose to do a website for my project is because of the higher total word limit. I have always liked to write a lot of words, and when I heard that the maximum amount of words for an exhibit was 500, I felt that I would have a difficult time limiting myself. When I heard that the website let me use 1,200 words, I knew that would be a better option for me. I started creating my website by laying out a home page. After researching videos on how to add and create text, images, hyperlinks, etc. to my website, I made all of my pages and layed out the content in a rough draft fashion. Later, I went back over all of my pages and revised them to create an organized website.

4. What is your historical argument?

The Navajo Code Talkers were a group of United States Marines from the Navajo native American tribe that used the Navajo language to send encoded messages to other Marines in the Pacific during WWII. The Navajo Code Talkers communicated with each other in their native tongue, and that gave America a strategic advantage over its enemies, allowing multiple victories and delivering the only uncracked code in military history.

5. In what ways is your topic significant in history?

The Navajo Code Talkers had a major impact in history. The Navajo Code Talkers allowed multiple victories for America and provided a major strategic advantage over Japan, helping the United States win WWII. The Code Talkers also helped America when they served in the Korean War, and at the start of the Vietnam War. Because of the Code Talkers, America achieved success during our country's 20th century wars. A significant example of their importance to world history is that the Navajo Code Talkers created the only uncracked code in all of military history.