

## ACTIVITY 2

### NEWSPAPERS, BOOKS AND MAGAZINES IN AMERICA

#### INTRODUCTION:



Newspapers, books and magazines have had a significant influence on United States history and on American society. This activity asks students to review literary works from specific historical periods.

This activity is based on the June 2006 Regents Examination.

#### TASK:

In groups of 3 – 4 members, complete the following tasks:

1. Determine the role that the newspapers, books and magazines have played in influencing United States history and/or American society since 1900. Select five (5) historical examples to support your discussion.

Ask students to analyze each example using a Written Document Analysis Worksheet:

#### National Archives:

<http://www.archives.gov/education/lessons/>

For each work selected, fill out a chart to organize your notes (See Handout 1).

2. Some suggestions you might wish to consider include:
  - a. *Common Sense* – Revolutionary War
  - b. *Uncle Tom's Cabin* – Civil War
  - c. *The Liberator* – Abolition Movement
  - d. *How the Other Half Lives* – Progressive Movement
  - e. *Silent Spring* – Environment
  - f. *New York World* – Spanish American War

You are not limited to these suggestions.

3. Using responses from Handout 1, you will write a review for each work.
4. Make a presentation of your work to rest of the class.

#### EVALUATION:

1. Students will be evaluated using the rubrics posted on the curriculum website at <http://szetohistory.tripod.com/regentsunits.htm>. Put all work in the portfolio.

## HANDOUTT 1: NEWSPAPERS, BOOKS AND MAGAZINES IN AMERICA

Directions: Using the Internet resources, fill out the chart below.

| WORK | SIGNIFICANCE |
|------|--------------|
| 1.   |              |
| 2.   |              |
| 3.   |              |
| 4.   |              |
| 5.   |              |