

**Step 1: Choose an ethnic group** – except for one in the United States. Don't worry, you'll still have plenty to choose from. It's a big world, despite what Disney says. If you're stuck, take a look at the this list from the CIA for some ideas. This link is also posted on the class website.

<https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/fields/400.html>

**Step 2:** Once you've chosen your ethnic group, take 20-30 minutes to do a little **research** on that group. Don't put your eggs in Wikipedia's basket! Try National Geographic or the Smithsonian Research Center if you're not sure where to begin. Keep in mind you'll need to cite your sources and citing Wikipedia as a credible source is *verboten*!

What, specifically, should you research? Good question. It's best if you consider the following:

- What is the history of the group? When and where did they originate?
- What are the shared cultural traits of your group? Are they primarily located in one geographic region or have certain traditions?
- What are the demographics of the group? Are they primarily located in one geographic region, or have they diffused globally?
- If the group has diffused, are there any major intragroup differences? (For example, traditional Irish culture differs from Irish American culture.)
- How does the group interact with the landscape? What are the cultural ties, if any, to the landscape?
- What are the ways the group has changed over time? Is the group today more or less the same as it was when it started, or have external forces such as globalization caused your group to change?

As you research, be sure to **take notes in your HuG Passport!**

**Step 3:** Once you think you know all there is to know about your research subject (or, at least, all you need to know for this activity), **write a 600-800 words expository essay in a Google Doc** that synthesizes your research into a paper addressing the cultural origins, characteristics, and evolution of the ethnic group you researched. Don't forget **include in-text citations** and to list your sources in a **works cited page** at the end of your essay. *If you need help with your works cited page, please visit the MLA page of the class website!*

**Step 4:** Run your essay through **Grammarly** and fix any spelling/grammar mistakes you might have.

**Step 5:** Once you are confident that you have a solid final product, **print a hard copy** and bring it to class.