**Magic Tree House Books: Europe and Russia**

You have been hired by a publisher to write and illustrate a Magic Tree House book that will be aimed at the 1-3 grades. The goal of the book is to continue the theme of the Magic Tree House books, which is history and geography, in your own book about a country in Europe. You are going to take Jack and Anne on an adventure in history and geography to one of the countries in Europe.

**First you need to brainstorm the following topics to include in your book about your country:**

1. Historical Events/People of importance to your country
2. Physical Geography- natural features of your country that make it unique
3. Human Geography- man made features of your country that make it unique
4. Cultural Geography-food, clothing, music, entertainment, sports, and ect…. (Things about the people in this country that make them unique)
5. You will include 20 pieces of information with at least 3 from each topic above and the rest you can choose from which category(s) you want them to be from.

**The publisher would like you to complete a first draft of your book so that they can account for the information that should be included in the story and to proof read:**

1. Cover- mock up with idea of what it might look like (Illustration does not need to be complete)
2. Minimum of 20 pages (at least 10 pages of story and a minimum of 5 pages with illustrations on them) These can be hand written at this point!
3. Mark with numbers each of the 20 pieces of information that you are including in your story- the elaboration about each does not count for a new number, just the topic itself.
4. Meet the author page with a description of yourself and a place for your picture to be added to the final copy.
5. A works cited that will be included at the end of the book explaining where you got your information. Must cite 4 different sources. These sources can be from textbook, encyclopedia, magazines, internet cited, or video resources.
6. You will then have classmates peer review your book to make corrections and advise them on things they can improve. You will need to turn this sheet of peer reviews in with your first draft at the time the final draft is due.

**The publisher would finally like a finished copy of the Magic Tree House book:**

1. Cover- illustrations complete (should also include author/illustrators name)
2. Minimum of 20 pages of story typed with hand drawn illustrations (at least 10 pages of story and a minimum of 5 pages with illustrations on them)
3. Meet the author/illustrator page with description and picture
4. Your finished product should be attractive- color and neatly done
5. Works Cited at the end with at least 4 different sources and a description of what information came from each cite. Example in the back of a Magic Tree House book.
6. You will attach your copy of the rubric to your finished product so that it can be graded.

**Magic Tree House Book Rubric**

**1. Cover: \_\_\_\_\_\_/5**

o Title

o Design/appearance

o Hand drawn (you can trace,but no copy and paste)

o Author’s name

**2. Story: \_\_\_\_\_\_/5**

o Theme/topic

o Accurately depicts the country

o Characters and plot

o Interesting/creative

o Sound

o Appropriate

o 20 pages with correct number with story/ illustrations

**3. Writing: \_\_\_\_\_\_/5**

o Clear and smooth

o Typed

o Correct Mechanics

o Appropriate

o Age appropriate (1st-3rd grades)

**4. Works Cited: \_\_\_\_\_\_/5**

o 4 sources

o Included with the final story

**5. Historical and Geographical information about your country: \_\_\_\_\_\_/40**

o 20 historical/geographical pieces of information

o At least 3 from each category- historical, physical geography, human geography, cultural geography

\* Not simple one word, but a complete thought

o Tells/explains as a complete thought

o Blends into the story

**6. Meet the Author: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_5**

o Author’s name

o Interesting information about you

o Picture

o Appropriate

**7. Illustrations: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_/10**

o Interesting illustrations

o Hand drawn illustrations

\* Color

\* Must have illustrations on at least part of 5 pages, but no more than 10

o Appropriate

**8. Overall Appearance: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_/5**

o Appropriate

o Illustrations

o Attractive

o Neat

o Colorful

o Creative

**9. First Draft: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_/20**

o Completed on Time

o Full number of pages/illustrations

o Shows the numbered 20 historical and geographic pieces of information from your country

o Contains- cover, story, meet author, and mock up of illustrations

o Works cited

Total Points: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_/100