

Scavenger Hunt Advice 2018

1. **This year's rules have some clarifications on the new point awarding system. Please read rules carefully.** If you have any further questions on the rules, please call the Hunt Director, Jim Impara, 541-324-3710. Consider the strategy behind the new point system where some points are awarded for answering and obtaining sources for certain parts of the question. Example question from 2018 High School Scavenger Hunt:

*Beware the Vernal Equinox. The **eve of the celestial event** saw an empire builder assassinated by trusted advisors and confidants. The death of his mother had caused horrific ramifications on the general populace. Some say his last words predicted the collapse of his empire by invaders from afar, most think his last words predicted his assassins **would kill one another**. Who is this warrior ruler who incongruously has a name associated with friendly greeting or relaxed comportment? 5 pts. (2-bold, 3 correct answer)*

2. **Documentation:** It is essential that answers **provide documentation for all questions**. URL addresses alone are not acceptable for Print Based sources. Print Based sources require MLA. The Rules detail the requirements.
 - a. **Blogs, Google Books and "ask" sites are not considered legitimate sources for any question.**
 - b. **You will need two sources to challenge the Hunt Director's answer.** (Yes, there are sometimes two answers (or more!) which can be documented with two sources each.) If you have good documentation, your team may get full credit for a different answer.
3. Note that Bring-Ins can be worth more points than other questions. Focus early on those, don't wait until the weekend; they may take longer than you think and stay on top of the students who are responsible for them. Print a list of the Bring-in items and distribute it to school staff for assistance. Invariably someone in your community knows where to find an item or knows someone who does.
4. Network. Network. Network. Build your network of helpers early and reach out into your community and beyond for ideas and suggestions. The hunt builds community.
5. Do you know about Ctrl F? Punch those two keys while searching an online text, type in the word you hope to find and you may see the word highlighted in the text you are reading. Saves a lot of time!
6. **Pre-plan time to go to a library during the hunt!** Most libraries are **NOT** open every day of the Hunt. A list of opening times for libraries in Jackson, and Josephine counties will be provided to you by SOU Youth Programs.
7. You may want a team head-quartered in the school library or other campus site where there is internet access. Arrange for that space ahead of time. **Remember, one source is required for each question, but two corroborating sources is the safest course to take.**

Organizational Tips for Coaches Prior to the Hunt

Arrange transportation for a bus to SOU for the adjudication session (9:00 am-2:30 pm) on Tuesday, December 11, 2018 or Wednesday, December 12, 2018. Divisions were assigned a date. It is suggested that at least two adults accompany your student teams to SOU.

A core group of 10-20 students will probably be necessary to be competitive. If you are planning on having a **group bigger than 20** attend the adjudication, please notify Jamie **ASAP** so set up needs can be accommodated. We may ask to make your day-of team smaller due to space and fire safety code.

You may suggest teachers at your school provide an extra credit assignment for finding answers. For example, have the social studies teachers assign the history questions to anyone in their classes who can find the answer and provide documentation.

You may find that an experienced High School Scavenger Hunt student would be beneficial as an advisor to you and your middle school students. They are familiar with the process. The high schoolers tend to have good ideas regarding strategy and can help organize.

Organize a place for your questions with a file for each question. When the adjudication day comes, you will have a file with your answers and documents ready to hand to the lawyers at the table. Highlight the answer and the required Print Based or Internet details.

Organizational Strategies during the Hunt

You will need an adult (volunteer or coach for instance) to assign questions, provide students with directions and make sure answers are adequately documented. Organization is critical. It is a poor use of time to have the same questions being worked on by three groups while others go unattended.

Have your answer file system ready for copies of your documentation. Each answer on the Scavenger Hunt requires at least one document to substantiate the answer. These are usually stapled copies of your documentation with highlights or notes indicating to the prosecutor where your information is located. During the adjudication your team will be asked to show these documents to other school teams. File documentation by question number in a filing system for easy retrieval.

Experienced Scavenger Hunt teams use people resources (teachers, parents, community members) to get tips and leads. If you get stuck or do not have a clue about how to begin, use those people resources around you to help.

The team coach and/or captain should keep a master copy of the answers. Add answers to the master as they come in. Double check incoming answers to be sure that students provide the proper documentation before the information is filed. Students should create a typed document of the final copy.

Adults Helping Students

Recruit and line up adults (teachers, parents or community members) to help students. Remember that this activity is a learning opportunity for students.

Some examples of adult help might be:

- The team coach sends two students to ask a teacher at your school who is knowledgeable about history to get a lead or direction.
- A student works with a parent to find a specific Bring-In item.
- Adults should work **with** students and not compete by themselves.

Parents may **help, support, encourage and suggest**, but **should not work alone** on questions. You may need to remind enthusiastic parents to work alongside their children, not alone. That goes for teachers and coaches too! STOP and remind yourself of the purpose of the Hunt. It's easy to get carried away. This program is for students!

For questions contact:

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