

JUNIOR CLASS MOUNTAIN TRIP ALTERNATIVE PAPER

If you are unable to attend the trip to the Pisgah National Forest either the summer before your Junior or Senior year, you may meet the graduation requirement by writing a paper. Use those 5 days to research and write about some aspect of Pisgah and its surrounding locale. Your paper must:

- Be at least 4500 words
- Include pictures and/or illustrations
- Include a proper MLA-style works cited page and MLA references in the paper
- Reference at least 3 sources beyond Wikipedia
- Adhere to the quality of writing standards set out in our English curriculum
- Be submitted to turnitin.com (class ID: 4018376; enrollment key: Pisgah)
- Be emailed to Ms. Perry-Eaton at seaton@tampaprep.org

Papers must be accepted by Ms. Perry-Eaton **before the start of first semester your Senior year**. Any Senior who has not submitted a paper of acceptable quality before that time will not be allowed to start classes his or her Senior year until the paper is accepted. Any and all assignments missed during this period of time will automatically become a zero.

This paper will be subject to the same quality standards as a paper that might be submitted to a class during the regular school year. Any cases of plagiarism, intentional or not, will be passed on to the Dean of Students and handled appropriately.

Your paper should be about the mountains of North Carolina. You can choose one or a combination of several topics listed below. These questions are merely a guideline; you may use your creativity and research other appropriate and relevant topics of your choosing as well.

1. Write on the techniques of rock climbing. What gear is needed? Where in North Carolina can you climb? Can you find any literature about climbing sites in Pisgah? What terms are used in climbing with a belayer? What does On-Belay mean? What other terms are used in the sport?

2. Discuss the things that can be done in Pisgah National Forest, besides hiking and rock climbing? They have a nice web site.

3. Discuss what kind of plants and/or animals one would expect to see in the western portion of North Carolina. Are any of the plants medicinal? Can you eat any of the plants? Do you know if any of them can be found in Florida? What is the climate like? Give some background on the Blue Ridge Mountains. (**NOTE:** please don't just give me page after page of different plants and animals. Limit this to 2 pages of the report.)

4. Discuss some of the memorable mountain people of old time North Carolina. Tell their story, in your own words. Who were their heroes, and what are they famous for? The Pisgah web site has some good sources.

5. Discuss some of the mountain arts that North Carolina is famous for.

6. Discuss the Appalachian Trail (commonly called the AT). Find some primary sources and tell me how you reacted to what they said. Did you think they were happy with their decision to travel that long distance? What do you think some of the high points would be if you had to travel with them? What would have been the most difficult part?

Remember: The more you think of this exercise as learning about a different side of life, the more you will enjoy it.