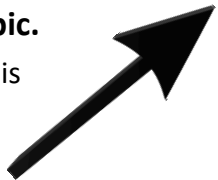


Follow the steps below and use the SPARK Test to determine whether a topic is a good fit for the 2027 National History Day® Contest theme *Innovation in History: Impact, Influence, Change*

1. Proposed NHD topic:

2. Use the SPARK test and ask the following questions about your topic.

If the answer to most of the questions is YES, it is likely a good example of an innovation in history.



Once you have answered these questions, consider how your topic fits the 2027 Contest Theme.

3. Circle one and explain:

This topic **IS / IS NOT** a good fit for the 2027 Contest theme because:



Did the innovation **Shift behavior**?

YES NO

Respond below: How did this innovation shift or change how people live, work, think, or act?



Did the innovation solve an important **Problem**?

YES NO

How did this innovation solve a problem? For whom? Did it create new problems or challenges that needed to be addressed?



Was the innovation **Adopted widely**?

YES NO

Why or how was the innovation adopted by large numbers of people, groups, or organizations? What impact did it have?



Did the innovation **Reshape or Redefine** a larger system?

YES NO

How did the innovation reshape a larger system (economy, government, communication, education, transportation, etc.)? What were the short-term effects of this innovation?



Did the innovation **Keep influencing** over time?

YES NO

How did this innovation influence communities across generations? What makes it a good example of illustrating change over time?