

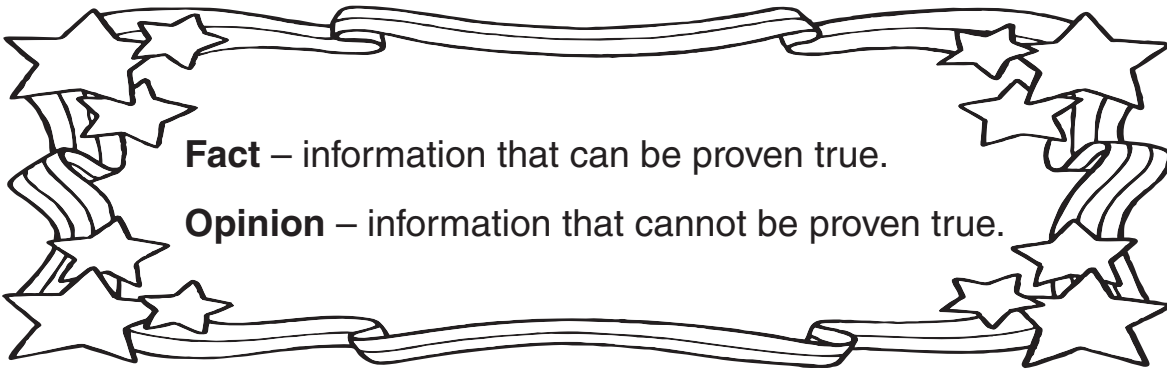
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# Fact and Opinion

Name \_\_\_\_\_

When you write a research paper, you must be very careful to stick to the facts. A research paper is written to give people information that is true or can be proven true.



Label these sentences as fact or opinion.

1. \_\_\_\_\_ Oregon has many lakes.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ Hawaii has the most beautiful islands in the world.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ Pennsylvania was one of the thirteen original states.
4. \_\_\_\_\_ Arkansas has mineral springs which can cure any illness.
5. \_\_\_\_\_ Virginia was the site of the first permanent English settlement in the New World.
6. \_\_\_\_\_ Michigan's shape is made by lakes.
7. \_\_\_\_\_ Texas is an oil-producing state.
8. \_\_\_\_\_ Iowa became a state in 1846.
9. \_\_\_\_\_ New York is an active center for art, music, and the theater.
10. \_\_\_\_\_ California has the lowest point in the nation—Death Valley.

At the end of your report, you may write opinions you have about your selected state, but you must make it clear that they are your opinions.

# Introduction to a State Report

A state report is a report for which you research information about your selected state and put this information into a written and pictorial format.

The pages which follow are guidelines for this type of report. You may use these pages in two ways.

1. They can be the actual pages of your report, completed by your research.
2. They can serve as springboards for your own ideas on how best to organize and complete your report, with you creating each page in your own words and style.



Not all of the pages will be applicable to your state. Use what applies for your particular report. Similarly, not all of the areas you would like to cover may be represented by the pages given. Create new pages for these areas! Here are some ideas you might use.

- ☆ State animal
- ☆ State tree
- ☆ Motto
- ☆ Fashions
- ☆ Customs
- ☆ Ethnic make-up
- ☆ Comparison of past and present resources
- ☆ Historical notes behind flag or other symbols
- ☆ Additional maps, graphs, and charts about specific areas such as geography areas and their climate
- ☆ Religions
- ☆ Elaboration on native plants and animals
- ☆ State character

We hope you enjoy researching and writing your report. It can open your mind to the uniqueness and beauty in each state.

# Political Features—Cities



## Political Features

of

\_\_\_\_\_

☆ The population of my state is \_\_\_\_\_ people as of this date: \_\_\_\_\_

☆ There are \_\_\_\_\_ counties in the state.

The largest county in size is \_\_\_\_\_ , measuring \_\_\_\_\_ square miles.

The largest county in population is \_\_\_\_\_ with \_\_\_\_\_ people.

☆ The five largest cities and their populations are:

_____	_____	people
_____	_____	people
_____	_____	people
_____	_____	people
_____	_____	people

as of this date \_\_\_\_\_

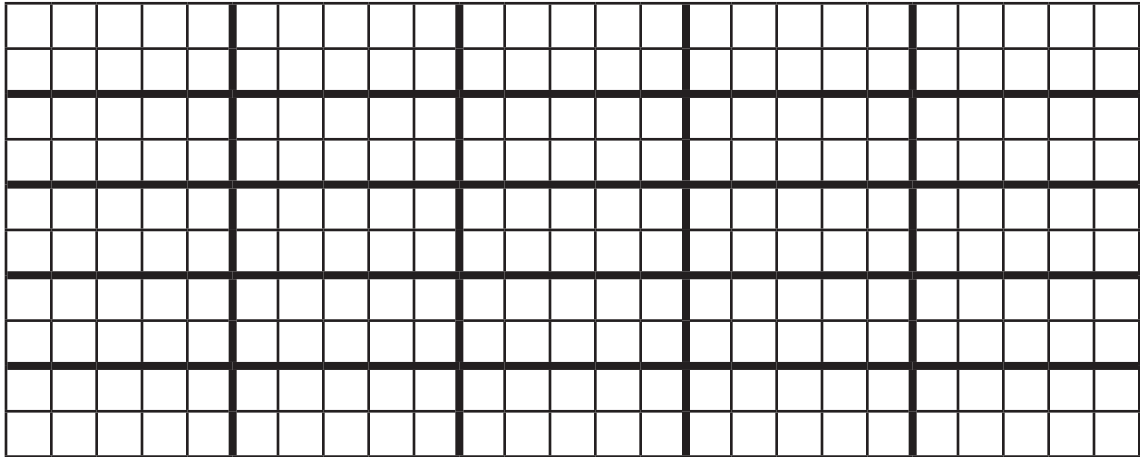
☆ The major highways in the state are

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

A **political map** of my state follows this page.

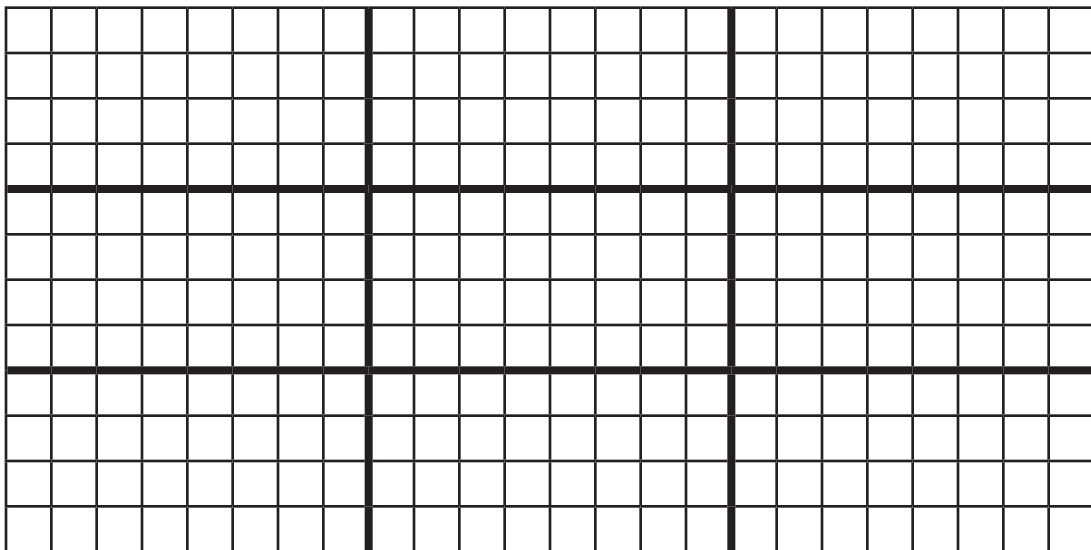
# Population Growth and Density

On the left side of the graphs below write in the population for each of the five years. On the bottom of the graph identify each year. Then, fill in your bar graph.



years: \_\_\_\_\_

Here is a bar graph comparing the population density of my state in three different years.



years: \_\_\_\_\_

# Education

## EDUCATION



\_\_\_\_\_ established its public schools systems  
in \_\_\_\_\_. State law requires children between \_\_\_\_\_ and  
\_\_\_\_\_ years of age to attend school.

★ Here are other facts about education in my state.

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These statistics relate to enrollment and teachers.

Number of local school districts \_\_\_\_\_

Total public school enrollment \_\_\_\_\_

Pupils per teacher \_\_\_\_\_

Number of classroom teachers \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher's average pay \_\_\_\_\_

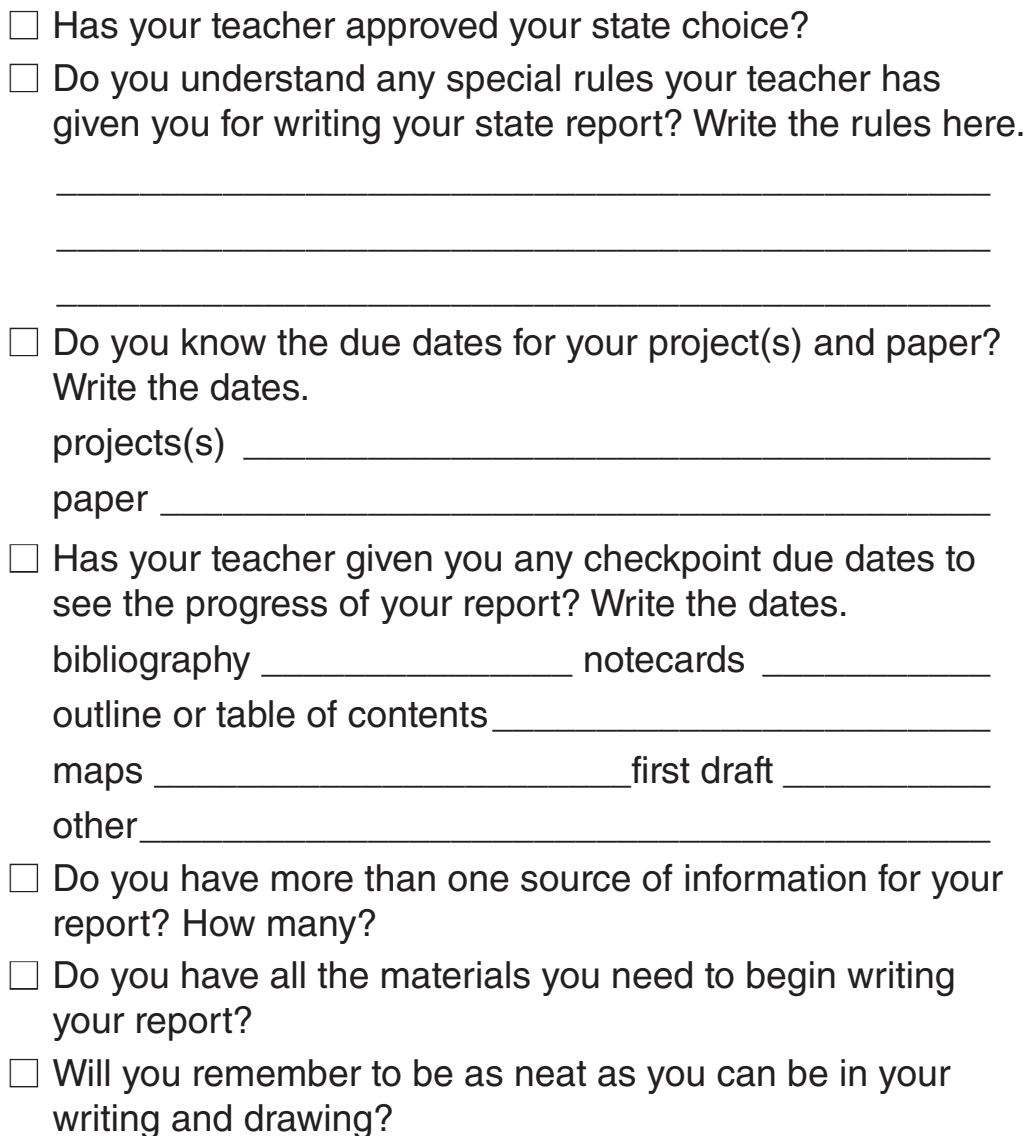
Total private school enrollment \_\_\_\_\_

★ A listing of universities and colleges and their locations follows this page.

# Checklist

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Are you ready to begin your state report? Before you begin, read this list. Check the things on the list you can answer with “yes.”

- 
- Has your teacher approved your state choice?
  - Do you understand any special rules your teacher has given you for writing your state report? Write the rules here.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
  - Do you know the due dates for your project(s) and paper? Write the dates.  
projects(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
paper \_\_\_\_\_
  - Has your teacher given you any checkpoint due dates to see the progress of your report? Write the dates.  
bibliography \_\_\_\_\_ notecards \_\_\_\_\_  
outline or table of contents \_\_\_\_\_  
maps \_\_\_\_\_ first draft \_\_\_\_\_  
other \_\_\_\_\_
  - Do you have more than one source of information for your report? How many?
  - Do you have all the materials you need to begin writing your report?
  - Will you remember to be as neat as you can be in your writing and drawing?

If you checked all the items on this list, you're ready to begin writing your state report!