

## Mini Research Assignment

In the first half of *There There*, Tommy Orange has woven in several historical events and topics related to the Native community. These events are crucial for understanding the characters' experiences and the themes in the novel. Your task is to choose one of these topics to research further. Then, write a 2–3 paragraph response that summarizes the historical event/topic, connects it to a character's experience and/or a theme of the novel, and explains how that knowledge ultimately leads to a deeper understanding of the text.

### Historical Events:

- The Sand Creek Massacre
- The Occupation of Alcatraz

### Topics:

- American Indian Movement (AIM)
- Addiction recovery and/or mental health support in Native communities
- Native blood quantum laws and tribal enrollment
- Powwows

### Criteria for Success

- Uses at least three credible sources
- Is organized into clear paragraphs:
  - 1–2 paragraphs: Accurately explains the historical event or topic
  - 1 paragraph: Connects the historical event or topic to a character's experience or a theme in the novel, using at least one specific example from the text to support ideas
- Explains how knowledge from the research leads to a deeper understanding of the text
- Is free of grammatical and mechanical errors

## Research Topics

Sand Creek Massacre	<a href="#">Nov. 29, 1864: Sand Creek Massacre</a> (Zinn Education Project)
The Occupation of Alcatraz	<a href="#">"We Hold the Rock: The Alcatraz Indian Occupation"</a> by Troy Johnson (U.S. National Park Service)
American Indian Movement (AIM)	<a href="#">"American Indian Movement (AIM)"</a> (HISTORY)
Addiction/recovery and/or mental health/support in Native American communities	<a href="#">"Alcohol Addiction Resources for Different Demographics and Populations"</a> by Mariah Bourne (American Addiction Centers)
Native blood quantum laws and tribal enrollment	<a href="#">"Blood Quantum and Sovereignty: A Guide"</a> (Native Governance Center)
Powwows	<a href="#">"American Indian Powwows: Multiplicity and Authenticity—History"</a> (Smithsonian Center for Folklife & Cultural Heritage)

## Mini Research Writing Rubric 9–12

Criteria	Fully Meets	Mostly Meets	Partially Meets	Does Not Yet Meet
<b>Historical Event/Topic</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Topic is clearly explained with accurate, relevant facts</li><li>• Uses at least 3 credible sources relevant to the research topic</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Topic is explained with accurate facts</li><li>• Uses at least 3 credible sources relevant to the research topic</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Explanation is general or missing key facts</li><li>• Uses 3 sources, but some sources lack credibility or relevance to the research topic</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Explanation is vague, inaccurate, or missing key facts</li><li>• Includes 2 or fewer sources and/or none of the sources lack credibility or relevance to the research topic</li></ul>
<b>Connection to <i>There There</i></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Insightful connection to the characters and/or themes in the novel</li><li>• Supports connection with original and well-chosen evidence from the text</li><li>• Thoughtfully explains how knowledge of the topic deepens understanding of the novel</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Clear connection to the characters and/or themes in the novel</li><li>• Supports connection with relevant evidence from the text</li><li>• Some explanation of how knowledge of the topic deepens understanding of the novel</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Limited connection to characters and/or themes in the novel</li><li>• Does not support connection with evidence from the text, and/or the evidence is disconnected</li><li>• Limited explanation of how knowledge of the topic depends understanding of the novel</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Is missing a connection to the characters and/or themes in the novel or makes an off-topic connection</li><li>• Does not explain how knowledge of the topic deepens understanding of the novel</li></ul>

<b>Organization</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Ideas are logically grouped and sequenced</li><li>• Topic sentences fully align with the content of each paragraph</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Ideas are mostly logically grouped and sequenced</li><li>• Topic sentences mostly align with the content of each paragraph</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Ideas in paragraphs are sometimes disconnected from one another</li><li>• Topic sentences often do not fully align with the content of each paragraph</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Writing is difficult to follow and/or not structured into clear paragraphs</li><li>• Topic sentences are missing</li></ul>
<b>Grammar and Mechanics</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Minimal to no spelling or grammar errors</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• There may be a couple of spelling or grammar errors, but they do not interfere with meaning</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• There are numerous spelling and grammar errors that sometimes interfere with meaning</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• There are frequent spelling and grammar errors that often interfere with meaning</li></ul>