



Kansas Research Topics and Theme Key Points Breaking Barriers in History 2020



Key Points from the Theme Narrative by Dr. Cathy Gorn

- Think carefully and critically about what “breaking barriers” means before you choose a topic.
- Barriers can be physical, natural, theoretical, attitudinal, mental, or ideological.
- Are all barriers negative? What barriers have positive consequences in history?
- Rarely does a person break a barrier on their own.

Kansas Topics

The topics listed below should be viewed as high level topics that students should use as a jumping off point to finding a more narrowly defined one. Keep in mind that it is just a **myth** that local topics do not do well. It is usually easier to find a greater array of primary sources for local topics.

Lutie Lytle
Lucy Hobbs Taylor
Jack St. Clair Kilby
Clyde Cesna
William J. Purvis and Charles A. Wilson
(helicopter)
William Lear
William Coleman
Langston Hughes
R. A. Long
Aaron Douglas
Lila Day Monroe
Gordon Parks
William Allen White
Fred Harvey
Cyrus K Holliday
Clyde Tombaugh
Elmer McCollum
Earl Sutherland, Jr.
Karl Menninger
Samuel Crumbine
Takeru Higuchi
Haskell University
Georgia Neese Clark
Rural Electrification
Turkey Red Wheat
Vice President John Curtis
Louisiana Purchase
Women’s Suffrage
Clarina I.H. Nichols

Susan B. Anthony
Ronald Walters
New England Emigrant Aid Company
Eva Jessey
Susan Madora Slator
Carry A. Nation
Martin and Osa Johnson
John Brown
Mary Elizabeth Lease
Katherine “Red Kate” O’Hare
Annie L. Diggs
Jeremiah “Sockless Jerry” Simpson
Arthur Capper
Nancy Landon Kassebaum Baker
Governor John P. St. John
Barbed Wire
Wolf Creek Nuclear Power Plant
Senator Robert Dole
Western University
Sumner High School
Benjamin “Pap” Singleton
Civilian Conservation Corps in Kansas
Orphan Trains
Henry Ford
Walt Disney
Gwendolyn Brooks
Governor Joan Finney
Dunlap, Kansas
Nicodemus, Kansas
Emily Taylor

Kansas Settlement and the Homestead Act
Automobiles and Road Systems in Kansas
Water and Soil Conservation in Kansas
Temperance and Prohibition in Kansas
County Seat Wars
Exodusters in Kansas
The Kansas Nebraska Act
Child Labor in Kansas
The Press and Free Speech in Kansas
Brown v. Board of Education
Natural Disasters and Weather Forecasting
Amelia Earhardt
World War I
World War II
Influenza Epidemics
Pony Express
Labor Laws & Labor Unions in Kansas
Civil Rights Movement
Students Protests
Vietnam War
The Scott Family of Topeka

Civil War in Kansas
Welfare Reform in Kansas
Kansas and the KU Klux Klan
Kansas Mining Industry
Dwight D Eisenhower
Food Safety in Kansas
Charles Sheldon
John Stutz
WPA in Kansas
Oregon Trail
Santa Fe Trail
H.P. Cady
Mamie Alexander Boyd
February Sisters
Marilyn Stokstad
Lucy Browne Johnston
Laura Mitchell Johns
Camilla Cave
Bruce McKinney
Bryan K. Whitehead