Included in this packet you will find the necessary information to complete your Semester I World Geography project. The most important thing to realize is that it is going to require that you get started on it as soon as possible. It will be due on **Monday, January 05, 2004**, which is the day we return from Winter Recess. A progress check of work completed will be made (*and recorded*) on Friday, December 19, 2003 (*a week from tomorrow*).

This project will be worth **200 points** and an incomplete or missing assignments will have serious negative impact on your overall semester grade. Don't waste time, get as much information as possible, and spend some "serious" time on it.

Students may either work on the project individually or with one other person (*please realize that if working with a partner more information is expected than if working individually*). Students will schedule their date for the presentation part of the project on the master calendar Tuesday, December 16, 2003. Dates **will not** be changed once students have selected them. Being absent (*for any* reason) the day of your scheduled presentation could cause you to forfeit all the presentation points.

Research Component

Students are:
- ✓ expected to find as much information about their topics as possible.
- ✓ to utilize class time to work on the project, which means materials are to be checked out from libraries, brought from home, etc.
- ✓ to write all materials in their own words (*plagiarism **will not** be tolerated*).
- ✓ to cite all sources from which information was gathered (*textbook is not a source*).

Research component may be completed and submitted in one of the following formats:
- ✓ traditional report (*to be typed 3-4 single spaced pages*) **and** accompanying poster board.
- ✓ powerpoint presentation (*minimum of six slides – not counting title and bibliography*).

Research component must contain all of the following elements:
- ▪ name of country and population
  - o historical background
  - o ethnic groups
  - o languages
  - o life expectancy
  - o literacy rate (*percent of population that read and write*)
  - o major religions
- ▪ geographic information to include:
  - o major landforms (*mountains, bodies of water, rivers, major topographic features*)
  - o information relating the size of the country in square miles
- ▪ climate and vegetation to include:
  - o temperature averages throughout the seasons
  - o native plants that grow in the area
- ▪ natural resources

- major cities (*capital city and other leading cities in the country*)
- major industries / jobs
- major imports and exports
- cultural issues to include:
    - traditional clothing
    - holidays / festivals / ceremonies
    - foods
    - music

Presentation

Students are all:
- ✓ expected to know enough about their country to present it to the class (*not read the information from papers*). **Tell the story,** make it interesting.
- ✓ to have presentations that are close to five minutes long (*individually*) and ten minutes long (*if working with a partner*). Each student should target for five minutes on their part.
- ✓ to incorporate or use visuals to help explain their information to the class.
    - powerpoint presentations should have pictures, brief text, and no sounds when transitioning from one slide to another.
    - poster boards must have large pictures, colorfully and neatly arranged with minimal text on them (*your information will be in the report, the poster is your visual outline to "tell the story of your country"*).
- ✓ to be prepared the day of your scheduled presentation. Serious consequences may occur if you fail to present on your scheduled day.
- ✓ to be serious about their topic and presentation.
- ✓ **to complete the one page fact sheet outline** (*to be handed out later this week*):
    - to be submitted to the teacher the day **before** your presentation.
    - it will be duplicated (*by me*) and handed out to the class after your presentation.
    - students will use these fact sheet outlines to review for the test covering the presentations.

Grading

This project will be worth, as already mentioned, 200 points and goes in the project category of the gradebook (*this category represents 20% of the total semester grade*). The breakdown of the points is as follows:

Research	30%	**60 pts**
Presentation	30%	**60 pts**
Typed Outline	20%	**40 pts**
Class Time Management	20%	**40 pts**

Students will be expected to keep a copy of fact outline sheets provided at the conclusion of each presentation in their notebooks and are responsible for learning the material presented on them.