Sample Assignments Using the Roper Center's Web Site
www.RoperCenter.Cornell.edu

Using iPOLL—

- **Investigate the year you were born.** What were the key issues of the day? Who was president? How well-liked were they? How was the US economy doing? What kinds of international activities were in play? Which teams were in the World Series?

Hints: Limit the dates of the searches and conduct different searches for each area you would like to cover.

- **Describe what was on the collective minds of the public during the period 1963-1970.** Be sure to consider both domestic and international matters in the US. How would you contrast those views to today?

Hints: Consider the events of the period. If you are uncertain, try searching for the words (most important) and (problem% or issue%). This generally locates the standard question:
'what is the most important problem facing the country today?' This will provide a view into the issues important at that time. Use this to fuel your other searches.

Using FREE Resources on the Center's Web Site:

- **Choose a group and study their Presidential voting behavior from 1976 to 2004.** For example, do women always vote for a candidate from a particular political party. Establish your hypotheses first; then investigate and report the results in a well defined essay along with your analysis of why you were right or wrong.

Hint: Look for Election 2004 coverage. At the bottom of the page there are links to how groups of people voted in each presidential election from 1976 to 2004.

- **Research Americans' fear of terrorism from the period prior to 9-11-2001 and since.** Are there differences?

- **Consider Immigration**. Have Americans changed in their views through the years? If so, how?

Hint: Go to the list of Topics at a Glance! modules.

- **Presidential Popularity.** Which President has claim to the highest approval rating? Which has the lowest? What events were happening at each of those times that would have influenced popular opinion?

- **Choose a President to research.**   What were the ebbs and flows of that President's popularity? What events track throughout the term(s) that impacted his popularity? Create a time line tracking both.

Hint: Start with the Presidential Approval Ratings off of the 'Quick Links'