

FREE-RESPONSE ESSAY RUBRIC/GRADE SHEET

AP ESSAY RAW SCORE:	AP GRADE:	CLASS GRADE:
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<p><u>Superior Essay “5”: AP Score of 8-9</u></p> <p>____ Superior thesis</p> <p>____ Extremely well-organized essay</p> <p>____ Addresses <u>all</u> areas of the prompt evenly</p> <p>____ Excellent use of analysis to support thesis and main ideas.</p> <p>____ Substantial use of evidence throughout</p> <p>____ Extremely well-written essay</p> <p>____ Generally error free (need not be perfect)</p>	<p><u>Strong Essay “4”: AP Score of 6-7</u></p> <p>____ Strong thesis (contains general analysis)</p> <p>____ Well-organized essay</p> <p>____ Addresses <u>all</u> areas of the prompt; may lack some balance between major areas</p> <p>____ Strong analysis in most areas; needs more</p> <p>____ Strong use of concrete evidence; may lack balance</p> <p>____ Well-written essay</p> <p>____ May contain minor errors</p>
<p><u>Adequate Essay “3”: AP Score of 5</u></p> <p>____ Clear thesis (needs more analysis)</p> <p>____ Thesis is a bit vague or muddy</p> <p>____ Fairly well-organized essay</p> <p>____ Addresses all areas of the prompt but essay may lack balance</p> <p>____ Contains some analysis; more needed</p> <p>____ Some major events omitted: _____</p> <p>____ Contains some concrete evidence; more needed</p> <p>____ Essay deviates at times from thesis</p> <p>____ Contains significant historical errors</p> <p>____ Some facts are irrelevant to time period</p>	<p><u>“2” Essay: AP Score of 3-4</u></p> <p>____ Undeveloped thesis (simple thesis)</p> <p>____ Thesis does not fully address question</p> <p>____ Flawed or vague thesis</p> <p>____ Weak organization</p> <p>____ Does not adequately address one or more aspects of the question: _____</p> <p>____ Lacks analysis of key issues</p> <p>____ Lacks evidence to support main ideas.</p> <p>____ Contains major historical errors</p> <p>____ Much information irrelevant to question.</p> <p>____ Essay is somewhat incomplete (too short)</p>
<p><u>“1” Essay: AP Score of 1-2</u></p> <p>____ No thesis ____ Flawed Thesis</p> <p>____ Facts not specific, accurate & relevant.</p> <p>____ No analysis of key issues</p> <p>____ Incomplete essay</p>	<p><u>“0” Essay: Did not do the question OR</u></p> <p>____ Writes on topic different from the prompt</p> <p>____ Little to no effort shown in preparation</p>

General Comments:

- Thesis/intro: complex-split __; complex-simple __; split-simple __; simple __; too much info __
- ____ Introduction contains vague or “wasted” sentences
- ____ Essay contains vague statements or generalizations not supported by facts.
- ____ Strong conclusion ____ Weak conclusion ____ No Conclusion
- ____ Strong topic sentences ____ Improve topic sentences ____ Good linking sentences
- ____ Don’t use “I” statements ____ Don’t use “my,” “our,” “we,” “us,” “you,” etc.
- ____ Don’t connect issues to “today” (unless asked) ____ Don’t use “flowery” or colloquial style
- ____ Grammar interferes with meaning of essay ____ Poor penmanship ____ Use Pen!!