

DVUSD – Social Studies Final Essay Scoring Rubric

Directions: Use the scoring rubric below to evaluate the final essay.

Criteria	5	4	3	2	1	0	Score
Thesis / Introduction	Strong thesis- responds directly to the question	Thesis stated; answers the question	Addresses the question but has weak structure and focus	Poor focus; fails to answer the question adequately	Fails to address the question; confusing and unfocused	No thesis; no attempt to address the question	
Ideas & Analysis	Weighs the importance of ideas with analysis	Recognizes that all ideas and analyses are not equally valid	Simplistic ideas; does not always weigh the importance	Misunderstood; fails to recognize any priority to ideas; weak analysis	Misunderstood the ideas and their significance	None	
Social Studies/ Historical Content and/or information	Cites considerable relevant information	Cites some relevant information	Includes little relevant information with no errors	Includes little information with errors (what is included is irrelevant.)	Includes no relevant information	Includes no information	
Historical Word Choice	Uses historically correct terminology consistently throughout the essay	Uses historically correct terminology and history vocabulary through most of the essay	Uses basic though simplistic terminology through most of the essay	Uses basic through simplistic terminology intermittently throughout the essay	Uses almost no historical terminology	None	
Use of Language & Organization	Well structured, well written; proper spelling, grammar, mechanics with paragraph development	Clearly written and coherent; some minor errors in writing with paragraph development	Weaker organization; some errors in writing detract from essay's meaning in paragraph format	Poorly organized; many errors in standard English No paragraph development	Disorganized; littered with errors in standard English No paragraph development	Lacks any organization; little attempt made Blank paper	
total score:							