

AP World History Comparative Essay Generic Rubric Overview

| Basic Core <i>Historical skills and knowledge required to show competence.</i> | Expanded Core <i>Historical skills and knowledge required to show excellence.</i> |
|---|--|
| <p>1. Has acceptable thesis. 1 Point <i>(addresses comparison of the issues or themes specified)</i></p> <p>2. Addresses all parts of the of the question, though not necessarily evenly or thoroughly. 2 Points <i>(Addresses most parts of the question: for example, deals with differences but not similarities) (1)</i></p> <p>3. Substantiates thesis with appropriate evidence. 2 Points <i>(Partially substantiates thesis with appropriate evidence.) (1)</i></p> <p>4. Makes at least three relevant, direct comparisons between or among societies. 1 Point</p> <p>5. Analyzes at least three reasons for a similarity or difference identified in a direct comparison. 1 Point</p> | <p>Expands beyond basic core of 1-7 Points. The basic core of a score of 7 must be achieved before a student can earn expanded core points. 0-2 Points</p> <p>Examples:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Has a clear, analytical, and comprehensive thesis ▪ Addresses all parts of the question (as relevant): comparisons, chronology, causation, connections, themes, interactions, content. ▪ Provides ample historical evidence to substantiate thesis. ▪ Relates comparisons to larger global context. ▪ Makes several direct comparisons consistently between or among societies. ▪ Consistently analyzes the causes and effects of relevant similarities and differences. |
| <p>Subtotal 7 Points</p> | <p>Subtotal 2 Points</p> |

TOTAL 9 Points

Comparative Structure for Essay

- I. Introduction: Historical Context + Thesis, Roadmap
A thesis statement must:
 - Fully address the question asked (not the one you'd prefer to answer)
 - Take a position in answering the question asked
 - Provide organization categories to support your position (these categories will be the subject of the topic sentences in the main body paragraphs)
- II. 1st Sentence for each body paragraph should be a comparative topic sentence. Then present a DIRECT comparison between 2 civilizations. Follow each comparison with specific historical evidence and an analysis of the direct comparison. 2 body paragraphs should be used, 1 for similarities and 1 for differences.
- III. Conclusion: Summarize main ideas and re-state thesis.

Introduction: _____

Direct Comparison #1: _____

Explanation: _____

Direct Comparison #2: _____

Explanation: _____

Direct Comparison #3: _____

Explanation: _____
