

Social Studies Thematic Essay Rubric

	Overall Development	Organization	Support	Word Choice	Mechanics and Sentence Structure
When scoring, consider	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The overall effect of the paper Degree to which the paper is fluent and addresses the task, audience and purpose 	The degree to which the response is: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clearly and logically ordered (sequenced) Paragraphed 	The degree to which the response includes details that develop the main points	Vocabulary Word Choice (language)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The degree to which the response includes sentences that is complete and correct Spelling Punctuation Capitalization
Level 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Thoroughly develops all aspects of the task evenly and in depth Is more analytical and descriptive (analyzes, evaluates, and/or synthesizes information) 	Demonstrates a logical and clear plan of organization; includes an introduction and a conclusion that are beyond a restatement of the theme	Richly supports the theme with many relevant facts, examples, and details.	Rich, effect social studies vocabulary throughout	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Very few or no mechanical errors relative to length or complexity Virtually no errors in structure or usage
Level 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develops all aspects of the task but may do so somewhat unevenly Is both descriptive and analytical 	Demonstrates a logical and clear plan of organization; includes an introduction and a conclusion that are beyond a restatement of the theme	Supports the theme with many relevant facts, examples, and details	Effective social studies related vocabulary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Few mechanical errors relative to length or complexity Few errors in structure or usage
Level 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develops all aspects of the task with little depth or develops most aspects of the task in some depth Is more descriptive than analytical 	Demonstrates a satisfactory plan of organization; includes an introduction and a conclusion that may be a restatement of the theme.	Includes some relevant facts, examples, and details; may include some minor inaccuracies	Acceptable social studies related vocabulary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some mechanical errors that do not interfere with communication Generally correct structure or usage
Level 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minimally develops all aspects of the task or develops some aspects of the task in some depth Is primarily descriptive; may include faulty, weak or isolated application or analysis 	Demonstrates a general plan of organization; may contain digressions; may not clearly identify which aspect of the task is being addressed; may lack an introduction and/or a conclusion	Includes few relevant facts, examples, and details; may include some inaccuracies	Simplistic social studies related vocabulary with acceptable but limited word choice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some mechanical errors that do interfere with communication Errors in structure or usage interfere with meanings
Level 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minimally develops some aspects of the task Is descriptive; lacks understanding, application, or analysis 	May demonstrate a weakness in organization; May lack focus; may contain digressions; many not clearly identify which aspect of the task is being addressed; may lack an introduction and /or a conclusion	Includes few relevant facts, examples, or details; may include inaccuracies	Simplistic social studies related vocabulary with inappropriate and/or incorrect word choice.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Noticeable mechanical errors that interfere with communication Serious errors in structure or usage
Level 0	Fails to develop the task or may only refer to the theme in a general way.	There is no plan in organization; No focus and identifies no aspect of the task; Does not have an introduction and/or a conclusion	Fails to include any relevant facts, examples, or details.	Extremely limited social studies vocabulary; riddled with errors in word choice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mechanical errors that seriously interfere with communication Serious errors in structure or usage