

HISTORY ESSAY WRITING RUBRIC

	4	3	2	1
Thesis statement	Thesis is clear and well developed. The thesis identifies the question and evaluates the relevance of the issue addressed in the essay prompt.	Thesis is partially developed, but only superficially addresses the significance of the issue in the essay prompt.	Thesis is underdeveloped and does not directly address the significance or relevance of the essay prompt.	Thesis merely paraphrases the essay prompt or essay has no thesis.
Analysis and supporting information.	Essay uses relevant information and facts to effectively defend the thesis.	Essay supports thesis with some relevant information but has limited depth of analysis.	Essay has limited amount of supporting information for thesis and contains only generalizations.	Contains no analysis or supporting information.
Organization	Essay is clearly organized with a logical structure that supports the thesis. Transitions are smooth.	Essay is organized but the structure is not consistent. Transitions are present but somewhat awkward.	Essay is not well organized and structure only weakly supports the thesis. Transitions are choppy.	Essay has no organizational structure and no transitions.
Sentence Structure, Grammar, Mechanics, & Spelling	Sentences are well constructed and have varied structure and length. No errors in grammar, mechanics, and/or spelling.	Most sentences are well constructed and have varied structure and length. Few errors in grammar, mechanics, and/or spelling.	Most sentences are well constructed, but they have a similar structure and/or length. Several errors in grammar, mechanics, and/or spelling.	Sentences sound awkward, are distractingly repetitive, or are difficult to understand. Numerous errors in grammar, mechanics, and/or spelling.