World History / Classics II Synthesis Essay
Literary Annotated Bibliography: *Beowulf*, *Macbeth*, or *Frankenstein*
Historical Annotated Bibliography: Historical Period or Persona (80pts.)

Capstone Questions / Synthesis Essay Prompts:

- **How does one pursue truth and goodness?**
  - Consider responsibility above rights, the morality of choices, or the role and responsibility of science

- **What does it mean to be human?**
  - Consider responsibility above rights, the morality of choices, or the role and responsibility of science.

- **Is knowledge its own end?**
  - Consider responsibility above rights, the morality of choices, the role and responsibility of science, the joy of learning, or the power of knowledge

Objective:

- Write a balanced essay based on one (1) primary source and two (2) secondary sources for World History and one (1) primary source and two (2) secondary sources for Classics II. Synthesize the historical and literary perspectives and focuses on one (1) of the capstone questions. Six (6) sources max.

Emphasis:

- Solid thesis development: the thesis statement should demonstrate how the capstone question connects to a literary work and historic period/historic personages from the modern period (post 1500).
- *Analysis* and *synthesis* of information of only biography, description, and/or plot.

Flexible Due Dates:

Final Thesis/Claims Approval (10 points) due: _____

Draft #1 Essay Peer Review English (5 points) due: _____

Draft #2 Essay Peer Review History (5 points) due: _____

Firm Due Dates:

Balanced Synthesis Essay* (80 points) due: _____

*For Classics II and World History – due to turnitin.com by the start time of *your* class period with hard copy turned in at the beginning of class as instructed by your teacher.

Requirements for Balanced Synthesis Essay (80 points):

- Multi-paragraph balanced essay with a strong, arguable thesis that blends the literary and historic aspects of the overarching (capstone) question.
- Data:
    - **Literary/Historical perspective**: **fully embedded** data with internal citations in MLA format with **data** from the **primary** and **secondary** sources.
    - Minimum of two (2) literary direct quotes and two (2) historical direct quotes One direct quote must be from a literary primary source and one must be from an historical primary source.
    - **Literary** and **historical sources** must have balanced representation
- Correct use of historical academic tone (past tense), literary academic tone (present tense), and proper MLA format
- Four (4) to five (5) pages (not counting WC page)
- Comprehensive Works Cited page (includes both literary and historical sources)
- Use Turnitin.com to assist with revising and editing and to upload final draft

Please note: The rubric score from history and the rubric score from Classics II will be averaged. You will receive the averaged score in each class.

Balanced Synthesis Essay Format

1. **Introduction** which concludes with thesis that poses the argument based on the capstone question. The argument must reflect both the literary and historical perspectives.

2. **Body paragraphs** successfully advance the argument (thesis) with strong claims, the required number of data, and fully-developed warrants that clearly show the significance of the data. Concluding sentences blend both the literary and historical perspectives. The body paragraphs reflect the use of parallel structure throughout.

3. The **concluding paragraph** restates the thesis (in a new way) and summarizes the main points of the argument. The final sentences should clearly tie back to the capstone question with a relevant observation.

4. **Works Cited** page that lists both the literary and historical sources, correctly formatted, in alphabetical order.

Here are some pages in Classics II Literature and Writing Handbook that will support you as you write this essay:

TOPIC	PAGE #S
Literary Academic Writing	22-23
Balanced Essay Models	63-64
Claim Data Warrant Model	36-37
Embedding and Using Quotations	46-51
From Day One: Focus on These Elements of Strong Academics	6
How Do I Write in Literary Present Tense	24
Literary Analysis Process (Graphic)	41
Paragraph Planner (Graphic Organizer)	65
Plagiarism	11-12
Two Smart Tips for Writing Essays of Any Kind	82
Works Cited for Primary Sources/in-line citations **(literary)**	5
The Writing Process (bottom half of page)	34

Thesis Statements

Thesis Statement: tells the reader what to expect: it is a restricted, precisely worded *declarative sentence* that states the **purpose of the essay**—the point the essay is trying to make. Without a carefully conceived thesis statement, an essay has no chance of success. The thesis statement falls at the end of the introductory paragraph.

Thesis Builder

Use this to help you get started:

1. What are you topics? (Both primary sources and the Capstone question)

2. What is your argument? What are you trying to prove or disprove? Is it focused?

3. What are you claims?

4. Now formulate a thesis question.

What role does _____ play in _____, and why is it important?
(focus) (primary sources)

5. Take the answer to your question and revise it into a balanced thesis statement.

The next page will help you structure your thesis statement into a strong, focused argument.

HOW TO STRUCTURE THE THESIS AND CLAIMS FOR THE SYNTHESIS ESSAY

To make different arguments about the two primary sources:

- Use independent and dependent clauses connected with one or more of the options below.

Example: Although both seek knowledge and understanding, Galileo's use of scientific discoveries to benefit humankind is more elevated than Frankenstein's pursuit of forbidden knowledge for personal glory.

Options:

- Use a correlating conjunction: neither…nor, not only…but also (must be used in pairs)
- Use a coordinating conjunction: and, but, yet
- Use a subordinating conjunction: while, whereas, although, because
- Use a conjunctive adverb: conversely, however, similarly, or likewise
- Prepositions: like or unlike

To make similar arguments about the primary sources:

Use an *as* phrase:

Example: Knowledge requires purpose as exemplified by the Reformation Period and in Shelley's *Frankenstein*.

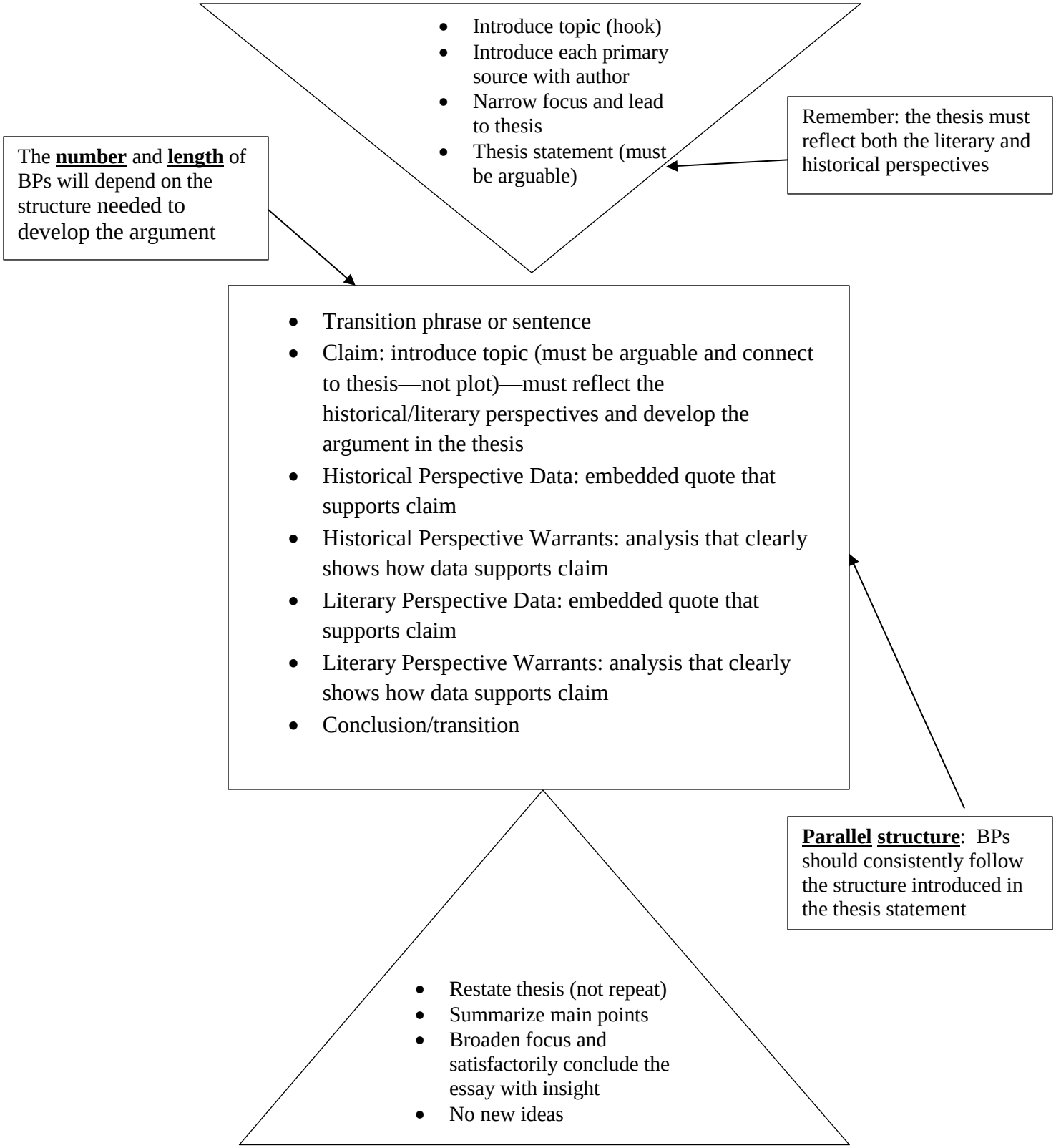
Sample as phrases:

…as illustrated by…	…as found in…
…as proven by…	…as seen in…
…as exemplified by…	…as exhibited by…
…as depicted by…	…as evidenced by…
…as shown by…	(or synonyms for any of these words)

Remember:

- No three-prong thesis
- Connect thesis and claims specifically to primary sources
- Use parallel structure
- Use correct tone—literary present and historical past

Sample Model for a Balanced Synthesis Essay



STRUCTURING THE BODY PARAGRAPHS

Refer to data requirements on page 2.

Some claims may need only one body paragraph while others may require more than one body paragraph. What will best develop your argument?

Examples:

One Claim-One Paragraph	One Claim-? Paragraphs
Claim: John Locke asserted that humans can gain knowledge, and the Creature increases his knowledge through books. Subpoints: ▪ Locke data and warrants about acquiring knowledge ▪ Creature data and warrants: o Paradise Lost: learns vengeance This argument can be developed in one paragraph with three (3) to four (4) data.	Claim: Napoleon enforced his right to rule with extreme brutality while Beowulf values his responsibility to save others. Subpoints: ▪ Napoleon brutality ▪ Napoleon brutality ▪ Napoleon brutality ▪ Beowulf-Grendel (first agon) ▪ Beowulf-Grendel's mother (second agon) ▪ Beowulf-dragon (third agon) This is a lot to cover in one body paragraph, so you may need to break it down into multiple paragraphs using transitional sentences like this to extend the claim: ▪ Furthermore, Napoleon was brutal when he ___ whereas Beowulf supports Hrothgar's subjects when he kills Grendel's mother. ▪ Napoleon also exhibited brutality by ___ while Beowulf demonstrates his responsibilities to others by destroying the dragon. *You may not need to cover all three subpoints if your argument is adequately developed in the first two subpoints. Refer to the transition word chart in the CWII Handbook, pp. 101-192.

January 2019

7	8	9	10	11
14	15	16	17	18
21	22	23	24	25
28	29	30	31	1

February 2019

4 Final Draft Ann bib due—2 copies (one for English and one for World History—with the correct rubric for each)	5	6	7 (Late window closes)	8
11	12	13	14	15
18	19	20	21	22
25	26 Final Draft Essay due—2 copies (one for English and one for World History—with the correct rubric for each)	27	28	1 (Late window closes)

SOPHOMORE SYNTHESIS CAPSTONE PAPER 2018-2019 English Rubric

Student Name: _____ Capstone Question #: ___ History Teacher: _____ English Teacher: _____

CATEGORY	POINTS AVAILABLE/REDUCTIONS	SCORE
PAPER LENGTH: (min 4 full pages and max of 5 full pages not including the Works Cited page.	☐ ½ to 1 pg. short = up to 1 letter grade ☐ >1 pg. short = between 1-2 letter grade ☐ >2 pp. short = 50% point loss minimum ☐ >1 ½ pages **long** = 1 letter grade	
FORMAT: (1 pt. each) ☐ Paper must have 1" margins (on all sides). ☐ Use 12 pt. Times New Roman font, double-spaced. ☐ Use standard TCA heading with both History and English teachers indicated. ☐ Has an original title. ☐ Use header/page numbers in proper MLA format; ex. Smith 4.	**5 points** ☐ Complete disregard of format guidelines may result in > than max points lost	
WORKS CITED PAGE: (1 pt. each) ☐ Minimum of 3 relevant literary sources required and all used. (ONE primary source and TWO secondary sources). Maximum of 5 literary sources (1 pt.). ☐ Use only sources from PPLD.ORG, *JSTOR.ORG*, and/or TCA library (1 pt.). ☐ 12 pt. Times New Roman and 1 inch margins on separate page; (1 pt.). ☐ Alphabetized correctly AND inclusive of both literary and historical sources (1 pt.). ☐ Correct use of MLA bibliography formatting for sources used (1 pt.).	**5 points** ☐ Major errors or omissions may result in > than max points lost	
LANGUAGE AND STYLE / ACADEMIC TONE: ☐ Mechanics: spelling, capitalization, punctuation, etc. (1 pt.). ☐ Use active voice and present tense verbs for literary portions of the paper (1 pt.). ☐ The paper maintains a formal style and an objective tone (2 pts). ☐ The paper employs vivid word choice and varied sentence structure (1 pt.).	**5 points** ☐ Major errors or omissions may result in > than max points lost	
DOCUMENTATION: ☐ Proper MLA parenthetical citation format throughout the paper (4 pts) ☐ format ☐ repeat use of source ☐ no "bucket" or "block" quotes ☐ Accurate Internal citations (content) that are properly and fully embedded (2 pts) ☐ Min of two (2) literary direct quotes…one from a literary primary source. (2 pts) ☐ Max of 5 literary citations. Must use at least 3 total literary sources. (2 pts) ☐ *Lack of appropriate and accurate documentation results in a failing grade and possibly a "0" on the assignment and an office referral*	**10 points** ☐ Major errors or omissions may result in > than max points lost	

CATEGORY	POINTS AVAILABLE/REDUCTIONS	SCORE
THESIS, CLAIMS, AND FOCUS □ The paper introduces an interesting, clear, arguable, and precise thesis, based on the Capstone question, literary primary source, and historic personage from the modern period, post 1500-1815. (10 pts) □ Body paragraphs maintain focus on the purpose and task with strong, arguable claims. (5 pts) □ The whole essay supports and develops the claims and counterclaims fairly while thoroughly addressing demands of the Capstone question. (5 pts)	**20 points** □ Major errors or omissions may result in > than max points lost	
ORGANIZATION: □ The essay includes a logical progression of ideas from beginning to end, including clear transitional words and phrases that enhance the relationships between and among ideas (i.e. claim and evidence, claim and counterclaim, strengths and weaknesses) and establishes cohesion and clarity. (1 pt.) □ Introduction includes a strong, arguable thesis and prefaces the main literary and historical components of the essay; not 1st sentence. (2 pts) □ Conclusion restates thesis and supports the historical arguments presented. (2 pts)	**5 points** □ Major errors or omissions may result in > than max points lost	
LITERARY SUPPORT, EVIDENCE, AND WARRANTS: (4 pts. each) □ Cites the most appropriate and accurate literary evidence to support each claim. □ Draws information substantively from multiple sources, including evidence from a primary source and at least two secondary sources. □ Establishes and draws upon proper literary context. □ Consistently demonstrates insightful reasoning and careful understanding of the sources. □ Warrants clearly and fully explain the relationship between claims and supporting literary evidence.	**20 points** □ Major errors or omissions may result in > than max points lost	
SYNTHESIS AND BALANCE: (5 pts. each) □ Blends and balances the literary and historical perspectives of the paper. □ Excellent balance □ adequate balance □ limited balance / one sided □ Elements of the literary and historical perspectives are included in the thesis statement/claims, transitions, and concluding sentences	**10 points** □ Major errors or omissions may result in > than max points lost	
TOTALS		
GRADE NOTATIONS: + = Excellent; √ = met requirement/average; x = needs work	**_____ of 80 pts**	

SOPHOMORE SYNTHESIS CAPSTONE PAPER 2018-2019 History Rubric

Student Name: _____ Capstone Question #: ___ History Teacher: _____ English Teacher: _____

CATEGORY	POINTS AVAILABLE/REDUCTIONS	SCORE
PAPER LENGTH: (min 4 full pages and max of 5 full pages not including the works cited page.	□ ½ to 1 pg. short = up to 1 letter grade □ >1 pg. short = between 1-2 letter grade □ >2 pg. short = 50% point loss minimum □ >1 ½ pages **long** = 1 letter grade	
FORMAT: (1 pt. each) □ Paper must have 1" margins (on all sides). □ Use 12 pt. Times New Roman font, double-spaced. □ Use standard MLA header with both History and English teachers indicated. □ Has an original title. □ Use header and page numbers in proper MLA format; ex. Smith 4.	**5 points** □ Complete disregard of format guidelines may result in > than max points lost	
WORKS CITED PAGE: (1 pt. each) □ Minimum of 3 relevant historical sources required and all used. (ONE primary source and TWO secondary sources). Maximum of 5 historical sources (1 pt.). □ No Internet or Encyclopedic sources. Print sources accessed online are okay. (1 pt.). □ 12 pt. Times New Roman and 1 inch margins and on its own page (1 pt.). □ Alphabetized correctly AND inclusive of both literary and historical sources (1 pt.). □ Correct use of MLA bibliography formatting for sources used (1 pt.).	**5 points** □ Major errors or omissions may result in > than max points lost	
LANGUAGE AND STYLE / ACADEMIC TONE: □ Mechanics: spelling, capitalization, punctuation, no slang, etc. (1 pt.). □ Use active voice and **past tense verbs** for historical portions of the paper (1 pt.). □ The paper maintains a formal style and an objective tone (2 pts). □ The paper employs vivid word choice and varied sentence structure (1 pt.).	**5 points** □ Major errors or omissions may result in > than max points lost	
DOCUMENTATION: □ Proper MLA parenthetical citation format throughout the paper (4 pts) □ format □ repeat use of source □ no "bucket" or "block" quotes □ Accurate Internal citations (content) that are properly and fully embedded (2 pts) □ min of two (2) history direct quotes…one from a history primary source. (2 pts) □ max of 5 history citations. Must use at least 3 total history sources. (2 pts) □ *Lack of appropriate documentation results in a failing grade and possibly a "0" on the assignment and an office referral*	**10 points** □ Major errors or omissions may result in > than max points lost	
THESIS, CLAIMS, AND FOCUS □ The paper introduces an interesting, clear, arguable, and precise thesis, based on the capstone question, literary primary source, and historic personage from the modern period, post 1500-1815. (10 pts) □ Body paragraphs maintain focus on the purpose and task with strong, arguable claims. (5 pts)	**20 points** □ Major errors or omissions may result in > than max points lost	

CATEGORY	POINTS AVAILABLE/REDUCTIONS	SCORE
☐ The whole essay supports and develops the claims and counterclaims fairly while thoroughly addressing demands of the capstone question. (5 pts)		
ORGANIZATION: ☐ The essay includes a logical progression of ideas from beginning to end, including clear transitional words and phrases that enhance the relationships between and among ideas (i.e. claim and evidence, claim and counterclaim, strengths and weaknesses) and establishes cohesion and clarity. (1 pt.) ☐ Introduction includes a strong, arguable thesis and prefaces the main literary and historical components of the essay; not 1st sentence. (2 pts) ☐ Conclusion restates thesis and supports the historical arguments presented. (2 pts)	**5 points** ☐ Major errors or omissions may result in > than max points lost	
HISTORICAL SUPPORT, EVIDENCE, AND WARRANTS: (4 pts each) ☐ Cites the most appropriate and accurate historical evidence to support each claim. ☐ Draws information substantively from multiple sources, including evidence from a primary source, to defend its position and effectively refute counterclaims. ☐ Establishes and draws upon proper historical context (The "H" in H.A.P.P.Y.) ☐ Consistently demonstrates insightful reasoning and careful understanding of the sources, acknowledging any inconsistencies or weaknesses in evidence (H.A.P.P.Y.) ☐ Warrants clearly and fully explain the relationship between claims and supporting historical evidence.	**20 points** ☐ Major errors or omissions may result in > than max points lost	
SYNTHESIS AND BALANCE: (5 pts each) ☐ Blends and balances the literary and historical perspectives of the paper. ☐ Excellent balance ☐ adequate balance ☐ limited balance / one sided ☐ Elements of the literary and historical perspectives are included in the thesis statement/claims, transitions, and concluding sentences	**10 points** ☐ Major errors or omissions may result in > than max points lost	
TOTALS		
GRADE NOTATIONS: + = Excellent; √ = met requirement/average; x = needs work	**_____ of 80 pts**	