

HISTORY/ENGLISH SYNTHESIS ESSAY SUPPLEMENT

Requirements for Balanced Synthesis Essay (60 points):

- Multi-paragraph balanced essay with a strong, arguable thesis that blends the literary and historic aspects of the overarching (capstone) question.
- Data:
 - **Historical / Literary perspective: fully embedded** data with internal citations in MLA format.
 - Must have quotes in each body paragraph in such a way that **Historical** and **literary sources** have **balanced** representation (parallel structure),
 - Overall, essay must have at least two (2) **primary** source data and two (2) **secondary** source data for the historical perspective and at least two (2) **primary** source data and two (2) **secondary** source data for the literary perspective
- 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** that introduces both primary sources and 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.

How to Structure the Thesis and Claims for the Synthesis Essay

To make different arguments about the two primary sources:

Use the *I, cI* or *I, ccI* structure (note the verb tense in each independent clause):

Example: Galileo made discoveries that advanced science while Frankenstein uses his scientific knowledge in an attempt for personal gain.

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

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
<p><u>Claim:</u> John Locke asserted that humans can gain knowledge, and the Creature increases his knowledge through books.</p> <p>Subpoints:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Locke data and warrants about acquiring knowledge ▪ Creature data and warrants: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Paradise Lost: learns vengeance <p>This argument can be developed in one paragraph with three (3) to four (4) data.</p>	<p><u>Claim:</u> Napoleon enforced his right to rule with extreme brutality while Beowulf values his responsibility to save others.</p> <p>Subpoints:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Napoleon brutality ▪ Napoleon brutality ▪ Napoleon brutality ▪ Beowulf-Grendel (first agon) ▪ Beowulf-Grendel's mother (second agon) ▪ Beowulf-dragon (third agon) <p>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:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 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. <p>*You may not need to cover all three subpoints if your argument is adequately developed in the first two subpoints.</p> <p>Refer to the transition word chart in the CWII Handbook, pp. 101-192.</p>

February 2018

29	30	31	1	2
5	6	7	8	9
12	13	14	15	16 PD
19 Presidents' Day	20	21	22	23
Essay turn-in window				

Name: _____ Period: _____ History Teacher: _____

Literary Perspective Essay Rubric (60 points)

Elements	Comments
Synthesis (10 pts.)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adequately blends and balances the literary and historical perspectives of the paper into one coherent, well-organized balanced essay. (5) Follows basic organization for an effective balanced essay with parallel structure (5) 	
MLA Format (5 pts.)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1" margins/TNR 12 / double-spaced, TCA heading//Header/P# on every page, original title (3) Accurate internal citations (2) 	
Academic Tone/Grammar/Mechanics (5pts.)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3rd person pronouns (1) present tense verbs (1) no slang or contractions (1) grammar, spelling and punctuation (2) 	
Thesis/Intro: (5 pts.)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Satisfactorily introduces essay (2) introduces primary source author/title (not 1st sentence or thesis) (1) Strong, arguable thesis (2) 	
Body Paragraphs (25 pts.)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Effective transitions that lead smoothly into arguable claim that ties back to the thesis (5) Minimum of three (3) fully embedded historical/literary data per body paragraph with balanced literary and historical perspectives (5) Accurate internal citations with data from primary and secondary sources (5) Warrants clearly show the significance of the data with fully developed ideas (5) Concluding sentence blends the literary and historical perspectives; ties back to claim (5) 	
Conclusion (5 pts.)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Restates thesis and main points (3) satisfactorily concludes the essay and blends the literary and historical perspectives (2) 	
Works Cited (5 pts.)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All literary sources properly cited and formatted 	
Total:	_____ / 60

Due: **February 21, 2017**—no papers accepted after **February 23, 2017**.

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Name: _____ Period: _____ Classics II Teacher: _____

Historical Perspective Essay Rubric (60 points)

Elements	Comments
Historic Tone/Grammar/Mechanics (5 pts.)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3rd person pronouns (1) • Past tense verbs (1) • no slang or contractions (1) • grammar, spelling and punctuation (2) 	
Thesis / Introduction / Conclusion (5 pts)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Satisfactorily introduces the historical components of the essay (not 1st sentence) (1) • Strong arguable thesis that demonstrates how the capstone question connects to a literary work AND historic period/personages from the modern period (post 1500 - 1815). (3) • Conclusion restates thesis and main historical points with accuracy and completeness. (Not one sentence) and satisfactorily concludes the historical aspect of the essay. (1) 	
Body Paragraphs - History Focus (25 Pt)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effective transitions that lead smoothly into arguable claim that ties back to the thesis (5) • Minimum of three (3) fully embedded historical/literary data per body paragraph with balanced literary and historical perspectives (5) • Accurate internal citations with data from primary and secondary sources (5) • Warrants clearly show the significance of the data with fully developed ideas (5) • Concluding sentence blends the literary and historical perspectives; ties back to claim (5) 	
Historical Content: Context and Sufficiency (10 Pts)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishes and draws upon proper historical context (time and place) throughout the essay. (3) • Historic evidence shows development over time (cause and effect, change) and evidence is not just a sampling of one instance in history, but several. (3) • Information reveals an in-depth and thorough study of the topic from a history point-of-view. (4) 	
Historical Analysis: Development and Quality (10 pts.)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analysis and argument is focused and directly supports the thesis statement (2) • Does more than just describe what happened in the past. (Does more than just tell a story.) (2) • Argument consistently answers the question of “So what?” (2) • Analysis and argument consistently takes into account the source’s intended audience, purpose, and point of view. (4) 	
Works Cited (5 pts)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All history sources properly cited and formatted. (Highlighted for history only) 	
Total:	_____ / 60

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