

Historical Fiction Paper

Historical and Social Sciences Analysis Skills Addressed:

Chronological and Spatial Thinking

1. Students compare the present with the past, evaluating the consequences of past events and decisions and determining the lessons that were learned. 2. Students analyze how change happens at different rates at different times; understand that some aspects can change while others remain the same; and understand that change is complicated and affects not only technology and politics but also values and beliefs. 3. Students use a variety of maps and documents to interpret human movement, including major patterns of domestic and international migration, changing environmental preferences and settlement patterns, the frictions that develop between population groups, and the diffusion of ideas, technological innovations, and goods. 4. Students relate current events to the physical and human characteristics of places and regions.

Historical Research, Evidence, and Point of View

1. Students distinguish valid arguments from fallacious arguments in historical interpretations. 2. Students identify bias and prejudice in historical interpretations. 3. Students evaluate major debates among historians concerning alternative interpretations of the past, including an analysis of authors' use of evidence and the distinctions between sound generalizations and misleading oversimplifications. 4. Students construct and test hypotheses; collect, evaluate, and employ information from multiple primary and secondary sources; and apply it in oral and written presentations.

Historical Interpretation

1. Students show the connections, causal and otherwise, between particular historical events and larger social, economic, and political trends and developments. 2. Students recognize the complexity of historical causes and effects, including the limitations on determining cause and effect. 3. Students interpret past events and issues within the context in which an event unfolded rather than solely in terms of present-day norms and values. 4. Students understand the meaning, implication, and impact of historical events and recognize that events could have taken other directions. 5. Students analyze human modifications of landscapes and examine the resulting environmental policy issues. 6. Students conduct cost-benefit analyses and apply basic economic indicators to analyze the aggregate economic behavior of the U.S. economy.

Historical Fiction Paper:

For this assignment you will be writing your own piece of historical fiction. You may choose any period of history as the setting for your piece. Choose a time period that interests YOU. You will be spending some time studying that era so make sure it won't be something with which you are quickly bored. As in any good story, you will need to describe a proper setting, characters that are appropriate for that time and PLOT. Please do not make it all character and setting description. Your characters have to do something in the context of the historical era. How does that era impact what they're doing? Where they're going? What they eat? What they wear? What they think? Your historical fiction paper (NOT INCLUDING THE BIBLIOGRAPHIC ABSTRACT) must be a minimum of 2000 words-use the word count function and print it at the bottom of the last page. Please use MLA Format.

Your historical fiction paper will be assessed based on:

- *the accuracy of your representation of the period
- *your ability to demonstrate historical trends
- *plot/setting/character development

This part of the assignment is worth **60 points**.

Bibliography:

In order to write a successful work of historical fiction, you must include reputable sources. You will be required to provide a bibliography in MLA format. You must use a minimum of FIVE sources.

Encyclopedias, your textbook and Wikipedia will not count as sources. If you have a question about the validity of a source-ASK.

This part of the assignment is worth **10 points**.

Bibliographic Abstract

In a separate essay you will write a Bibliographic Abstract in which you describe how the sources utilized ultimately helped influence your story. Your Bibliographic Abstract must be a minimum of 500 words (again, use the word count function and include it at the end of the last page) and include analysis of each of your sources. In what way were they helpful? Was there any bias behind the sources? If so, what?

This part of the assignment is worth **30 points**.

You will have a date for in class peer editing in which you must bring a draft of your Historical Fiction as well as your Bibliographic Abstract. When you turn in your final draft you must include your edited rough draft. Significant changes are expected.

Due Date: _____

