

Sanborn Regional School District
Social Studies Rubrics
Grades 9-12
United States History Essay

Category	Score 5	Score 4	Score 3	Score 2	Score 1
	The essay shows excellent knowledge and understanding. The essay:	The essay shows very good knowledge and understanding. The essay:	The essay shows adequate knowledge and understanding. The essay:	The essay shows limited knowledge and understanding. The essay:	The essay shows little or no knowledge and understanding. The essay:
Position	States a specific position clearly, using a thesis that guides development	States a clear position with a thesis that sets direction	States a general position with a simple or partially developed thesis	Lacks a clear position or establishes a flawed position partially related to the topic	States no position or establishes a position not related to the topic
Analysis	Demonstrates a thoughtful and well-reasoned analysis to reach logical conclusions	Demonstrates thoughtful analysis to reach reasonable conclusions	Organizes and uses information to support reasonable conclusions	Offers a reasonable conclusion without documentation or an analysis that contains misconceptions and/or fallacious reasoning	Usually lacks analysis
Support	Supports conclusions with appropriate and accurate historical information, minor errors, if any, do not compromise position	Supports conclusions with accurate historical information with few errors; mistakes do not significantly compromise position	Supports conclusions with generally accurate historical information; may contain factual errors, but is balanced by accurate historical	Lack accuracy, confines information to limited areas or use it inappropriately; may have numerous and major errors	Merely mentions several names or events; may have an extremely high error rate
Topic Coverage	Sufficiently covers all areas of the topic	Covers all areas of the topic. but may give more attention to one area than another	Attempts to cover all aspects of the topic; may not complete all tasks	May cover only portions of the topic	Does little more than mention the topic or repeat portions of the topic; refers to subject, but does not address topic
Clarity	Conveys knowledge and ideas clearly and effectively	Conveys knowledge and ideas clearly	Conveys knowledge and ideas adequately	Conveys knowledge and ideas in a manner that lacks clarity	Conveys knowledge and ideas in an incomprehensible or extremely general manner