

Ap World History Compare and Contrast Essay Outline

STEP 1 - Diagnosis

- Read the Question and break it down in for what it is asking
- In the Margin, determine all of the information that you know about it
 - Start from broad to specific (time period, location, concepts, events, etc...)

STEP 2 - Organization and Planning

- Find three topics that you can group together into paragraphs
- Plan out your essay into a brief skeleton that you can draw upon as you write

STEP 3 - Creation

- Write your essay following the point structure below and paying attention to the examples.

POINT 1 - Thesis

- If you don't have one you can't gain this point or point #3 for supporting your thesis
 - Consider the thesis to be the essence of the paper, it is your essay in one or two sentences
 - Introduce each paragraph with a topic sentence linked to the thesis
 - The thesis **MUST** address Similarities **AND** Differences in either the introduction or the conclusion to get full credit
- The thesis can only be counted as the thesis and not also as a direct comparison
- You don't need to write an introduction, so don't. Leave blank space to come back and write one if you have extra time.

POINT 4 - Direct Comparisons

- *1st Sentence* for each body paragraph should be a comparative (a direct comparison sentence)
 - Remember you must make Direct Comparisons, (apples to apples) so make it very clear to the reader your comparing in your sentence
 - Use linking comparative words such as “whereas” to help set up direct comparisons
 - For Example: “Both the Haitian and Russian revolutions drew considerable strength from the subjugation of the under classes into oppressive conditions, slaves and serfs repectiveley.”

POINT 5 - Analysis for Direct Comparisons

- *2nd sentence* then explains/analyzes the direct comparison in the first sentence.

POINT 3 - Historical Evidence

- *Then subsequent sentences* in the paragraph should provide at least 2 prior knowledge statements/evidence in each paragraph.
 - You will do this for each of the body paragraphs in the paper so at least six will be written
 - This content should be from your coursework and can

POINT 2 - Addresses all parts of the question

- Must address similarities AND differences for a full 2 points
- Address Comparisons, Chronology, Causation, Connections, Themes, Interactions, and Content

EXTENDED CORE

- *You have already written yourself into the extended core if you have followed the step by step!!!*
- If in the comparative question there is a parenthetical qualifier such as (political, economic, cultural), it is not required that evidence is given for each. This parenthetical qualifier helps students think about what to write.