Essay Writing Basics
- State Thesis
- Give Examples/Evidence
- Address Topic
- Conclusion
- Prove Thesis
- 5 As
Essay - Long Essay Question

- Periodization
  - comparing/contrasting time periods
- 2 Essays
- Evidence
- Thesis
- Must analyze, not describe
- Multiple evidence
Who is the Better Superhero?
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Analysis</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Superman can fly, Batman can't</td>
<td>Superman is invulnerable and cannot be killed so Batman would not be able to beat him using regular means</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Superman has powers &amp; Batman is a human</td>
<td>Superman has powers so he could use his heat vision or ability to fly to beat Batman, destroy his equipment or evade being caught</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Batman has infinite money and resources</td>
<td>Batman has the resources and money to find and buy Kryptonite which can be use to defeat Superman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Superman is almost invulnerable &amp; Batman is just a man who can be killed</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Sample: 2B
Score—Thesis: 1

The thesis claims that the war marked a “major turning point” and resulted in worsened tensions between America and Britain. Throughout the essay the topic sentences continue to add clarity to the argument presented.

Score—Support for Argument: 2

The essay is supported with specific evidence such as the Stamp Act, the Townsend Acts, the Tea Act, and the Boston Tea Party. Even though the characterization of all anti-Loyalists as “wild” and inclined to “break into the homes of Loyalists” and “throw tea into the sea” may be going a little too far, it is linked effectively to the Boston Tea Party.
**Score—Application of Targeted Historical Thinking Skill: 1**

There is analysis in the essay of developments before and after the French and Indian War, but the focus is on changes and differences. There is no mention of similarities.

**Score—Synthesis: 1**

The essay makes a connection between the Seven Years’ War and the War of 1812 by recognizing that both involved changes in American-British relations. Despite some errors (the implication that the Seven Years’ War was between Britain and America and the chronology on Jay’s Treaty), the essay points out that since the end of the War of 1812, America and Britain have been on the same side in major wars.
Sample: 2C
Score—Thesis: 0

While the essay provides a thesis, it does not evaluate the extent to which the French and Indian War marked a turning point in American-British relations. Instead, it only states what changed.

Score—Support for Argument: 1

The essay provides some specifics (salutary neglect, Stamp Act and Tea Act) that support the stated thesis but does not consistently and clearly do this in most of the essay (e.g., it asserts that the French and the colonists were aliens after the French and Indian War).

Score—Application of Targeted Historical Thinking Skill: 1

The essay describes how the relationship between Britain and America changed from before the French and Indian War (colonists “doing their own thing” with salutary neglect) to the British increasing control after the war with heavy taxation. There is no evidence of clear analysis or coverage of similarities.

Score—Synthesis: 0

While the essay makes an attempt at synthesis (Third Amendment and Quartering Act), it does not make that connection coherently and persuasively.