

HIST 2020 Homework Rubric: Paper Plan Worksheet

	<i>Excellent (A/A-)</i>	<i>Good (B+/B/B-)</i>	<i>Fair (C+/C/C-)</i>	<i>Poor (D+/D/F)</i>
<i>Argument (20 points)</i>	<i>18-20 points</i> Worksheet proposes an argument that is extremely clear, historically convincing, and demonstrates real insight into the historical context and sources.	<i>16-18 points</i> Worksheet proposes a reasonably clear, reasonably historically convincing argument, but it is not as clear, convincing, or insightful as that of an “Excellent” argument.	<i>14-16 points</i> Worksheet proposes a somewhat unclear or muddled argument, or that argument is not entirely historically convincing.	<i>0-14 points</i> Worksheet does not propose an argument, or that argument is so unclear or so historically unconvincing that it cannot be given a higher score.
<i>Thesis (20 points)</i>	<i>18-20 points</i> Worksheet includes a thesis statement that precisely and thoroughly explicates the author’s reasoning behind the argument. The reasoning provided is historically convincing and insightful.	<i>16-18 points</i> Worksheet includes a thesis statement that provides solid reasons for the argument, but it is not quite as precise or thorough as that of an “Excellent” thesis, or its reasoning is not quite as convincing or insightful.	<i>14-16 points</i> Worksheet includes a thesis that is somewhat unclear or muddled, or that does not provide convincing reasoning behind the argument.	<i>0-14 points</i> Worksheet does not include a thesis, or that thesis is so unclear or illogical that it cannot be given a higher score.
<i>Introduction (10 points)</i>	<i>9-10 points</i> Plans for introductory paragraph provide a thorough, thoughtful, and clear introduction to the main issues covered in the paper.	<i>8-9 points</i> Plans for introductory paragraph are clear and historically accurate, but they do not provide as seamless an introduction to the main issues covered in the paper as that of an “Excellent” introduction.	<i>7-8 points</i> Plans for introductory paragraph are vague or historically inaccurate, or they do not offer a clear introduction to the main issues covered in the paper.	<i>0-7 points</i> Does not include plans for introductory paragraph, or those plans are so vague and unclear that they cannot be given a higher score.
<i>Topic Sentences for Body Paragraphs (20 points)</i>	<i>18-20 points</i> The proposed topic sentences for the body paragraphs precisely and thoughtfully encapsulate the author’s main idea in each paragraph. They are all of appropriate scope for	<i>16-18 points</i> The proposed topic sentences for the body paragraphs convey the author’s general point in that paragraph, but they are not as precise and thoughtful as those with	<i>14-16 points</i> The proposed topic sentences for the body paragraphs are vague. They suggest the topic of each paragraph, but they do not introduce the main idea of each paragraph.	<i>0-14 points</i> Does not include proposed topic sentences for each body paragraph, or the topic sentences provided are so vague and unclear that they cannot be given a higher score.

	a single paragraph, and they relate back to the author’s argument and thesis.	“Excellent” topic sentences. They are all of appropriate scope for a single paragraph, and they relate back to the author’s argument and thesis.	Some may not be of appropriate scope for a single paragraph, and/or they may not relate back to the author’s argument and thesis.	
<i>Evidence in Body Paragraphs (20 points)</i>	<i>18-20 points</i> Student provides detailed evidence for every paragraph, including exact quotations and facts, with citations for where that evidence was found. The proposed evidence for each body paragraph thoroughly and thoughtfully supports the main idea of each paragraph. In addition, worksheet follows directions in terms of using only materials from this class and using at least 3 of the provided primary sources as evidence.	<i>16-18 points</i> Student provides somewhat detailed evidence for every paragraph, but is a bit sloppy with citations, exact quotations, etc. The proposed evidence for each body paragraph supports the main idea of each paragraph, but not as thoroughly and thoughtfully as does the evidence in the “Excellent” category. In addition, worksheet follows directions in terms of using only materials from this class and using at least 3 of the provided primary sources as evidence.	<i>14-16 points</i> Student provides somewhat vague or cursory evidence for most or all body paragraphs. The evidence seems to support the topic of each paragraph, but it is unclear whether or not that evidence supports the main idea of each paragraph. In addition, worksheet follows directions in terms of using only materials from this class as evidence, but it might use fewer than 3 of the primary sources.	<i>0-14 points</i> Does not provide evidence for most or all body paragraphs, or that evidence is so vague and unclear as to be meaningless. Alternatively, worksheet includes any evidence from materials not provided in class.
<i>Conclusion (10 points)</i>	<i>9-10 points</i> Plan for conclusion paragraph thoroughly sums up the main claims of the paper and provides a compelling analysis of the significance of its argument.	<i>8-9 points</i> Plan for conclusion paragraph generally sums up the main claims of the paper, but it provides little analysis, or unconvincing analysis, of the significance of its argument.	<i>7-8 points</i> Plan for conclusion is somewhat vague and unclear. It discusses the topic of the paper, but does not sum up the paper’s main claim and significance.	<i>0-7 points</i> Does not include plans for conclusion paragraph, or those plans are so vague and unclear that they cannot be given a higher score.