



BEFORE WE GET STARTED

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CAP
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2024



Rosters

SESSION 651



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handouts are
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CAP
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2024



Register your attendance for each session.

JUDGING THE ESSAY

IN SOCIAL STUDIES

AND

CURRENT ISSUES
& EVENTS



SESSION 651

**CIE AND SOCIAL STUDIES:
JUDGING THE ESSAY**

Discuss the rules guiding judging and the best practices for how essays should be scored from Invitationals to State.

WHAT'S NEW

NOTHING

WHAT'S NEW

NOT MUCH. BUT...

Contestants may bring **lined paper** as long as it is presented to a test proctor for inspection prior to the start of the contest.

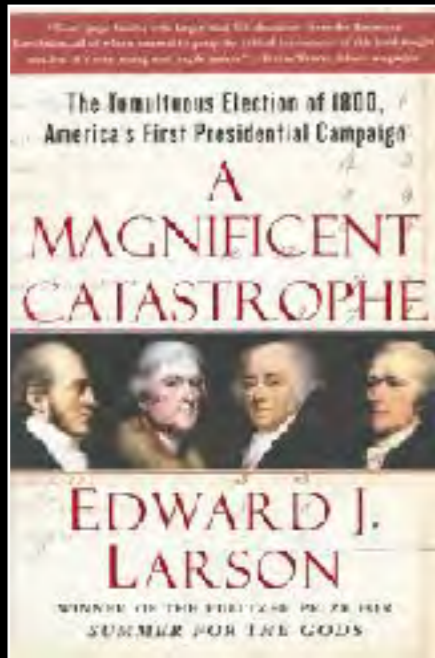
Judges must read and assign a score individually **before** conferring collectively to determine a final consensus score. If there is more than one judge, each judge must read the essay and assign a score individually.

ABOUT THE CI&E CONTEST



- 40 objective questions (2 pts. each)
- Essay (20 points)
- 60 minutes
- Top score individual (objective plus essay)
- Top score team (objective only; top three individuals constitute team score)

ABOUT THE SOCIAL STUDIES CONTEST



2024-2025 READING

A Magnificent Catastrophe: The Tumultuous Election of 1800, America's First Presidential Campaign by Edward J. Larson, 2007

- 45 objective questions = 80 total points
- Essay (20 points)
- 90 minutes
- Top score individual (objective plus essay)
- Top score team (objective only; top three individuals constitute team score)

ABOUT INDIVIDUAL SCORING



- Objective + essay score.
- Only top eight objective scorers advance to essay round.

ABOUT INDIVIDUAL SCORING OBJECTIVE QUESTIONS

- Britney – 32
- Lindsay – 30
- Tara – 28
- Juan – 27
- Jayden – 26
- Sophia – 26
- Nicole – 25
- Hilary – 24
- Noah – 23
- Jacob – 22
- Mary-Kate – 21

All other contestants answered fewer than 21 correctly.

Top eight advance to the essay round.

ABOUT INDIVIDUAL SCORING

ADD THE ESSAY QUESTIONS

NAME	OBJECTIVE	ESSAY	TOTAL
BRITNEY	32	5	37
LINDSEY	30	7	37
TARA	28	10	38
JUAN	27	10	37
JAYDEN	26	8	34
SOPHIA	26	5	31
NICOLE	25	3	28
HILARY	24	9	33

THE NUMBERS: STATE 2024

Objective score average | 29.3*

(2023: 28.8) (2022: 25.82) (2021: 25.4) (2019: 25.2) (2018: 27.5)
(2017: 31.3) (2016: 27.6) (2015: 32.3)

High | 37*

Low | 17*

Essay score average | 5.9*

(2023: 5.7) (2022: 6.5) (2021: 5.9) (2019: 5.7) (2018: 6.3)
(2017: 5.2) (2016: 4.7) (2015: 5.6)

High | 8.5* (n=1)

Low | 1* (n=1)

*In 2024, the points doubled. They have been cut in half for comparative purposes.

THE NUMBERS: STATE 2024

	1A	2A	3A	4A	5A	6A	Average
Contestants	24	24	22	24	26	24	24.0
High Overall	83	81	90	85	89	84	85.3
High Objective	66	70	72	72	74	74	71.3
Low Objective	34	46	38	36	52	16	37.0
High Essay	17	16	18	17	19	16	17.2
Low Essay	6	4	11	8	2	9	6.7

LET'S LOOK AT CLASS 6A IN 2019

Four people tied for first place based on an objective score of 31. We'll call them Alpha, Beta, Delta and Gamma.

Alpha was a CI&E studdette. She got a 7 on the essay and remained in first place.

However, Beta, Delta and Gamma didn't do as well on the essay, scoring 6, 5 and 4.5 respectively.

LET'S LOOK AT CLASS 6A 2019

Zeta, who scored a 29 on the objective portion and was in sixth place, however, scored an 8 on the essay.

Student	Objective	Place Before	Essay	Total	Place After	Change
Alpha	31	1	7	38	1	0
Beta	31	1	6	37	4	-3
Gamma	31	1	5	36	5	-4
Delta	31	1	4.5	35.5		-7
Epsilon	30	5	7	37	3	+2
Zeta	29	6	8	37	2	+4
Eta	29	6	6	35		-7
Theta	28	8	8	36	6	+2

LET'S LOOK AT 2024

CHANGE IN PLACE

Final Place	1A	2A	3A	4A	5A	6A
1		-1			-1	-1
2		-6	1			-1
3	-1 (B)		-4	-2	1	1
4	1 (A)	1	1	4	3	2
5	1	3	2	2	3	-1
6	2	5	-1	1	-1	

Final place is objective plus essay.

(a) **Positive numbers** indicate moving up from, for example, seventh place to third (+3). (b) **Negative numbers** indicate moving down from, for example, first place to fourth (-3).

TIES

- Overall all six classifications in 2024 at State Meet, we had **52 students** (out of 144) or 36% involved in a tie.
- Overall all six classifications in 2023 at State Meet, we had **44 students** (out of 155) or 28% involved in a tie.
- In 2023 in Class 1A, there was a **six-way tie** for fourth place.
- In 2023 in Class 5A, there was a **five-way tie** for second place.
- In 2023 in Class 6A, there was a **five-way tie** for sixth place and a **four-way tie** for second place.

SOCIAL STUDIES GRADING THE ESSAY

Contestants who do not write an essay will be disqualified. Any essay that does not demonstrate a sincere effort to discuss the assigned topic will be disqualified.

The rankings of essays will be based primarily on how well the topic has been addressed.

MENT
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■ **POINTS AWARDED:**

Judge 1

An 16-20 ESSAY opens with a declarative statement that extends the prompt without re-stating it. The thesis is supported by substantial, relevant information that analyzes the prompt from a range of perspectives — for example, social, political, economic, cultural and scientific. It does not provide a mere shopping list of facts. It interprets the facts without editorializing. The essay is well written and organized with few spelling, grammar or punctuation errors. The essay is clear, precise and succinct.

A 11-15 ESSAY offers a clear thesis with limited development. It either deals with one aspect in depth or with all aspects

Comments:

ES
MICS

organization skills displayed. May contain errors of fact that do not seriously detract from the quality of the essay.

A 6-10 ESSAY lacks a thesis or presents a confused or undeveloped thesis. It deals with the prompt in a superficial way and offers no analysis. Instead, it tends to editorialize. May contain major fact errors, display poor writing skills and rely on bloated, pretentious language.

A 0-5 ESSAY displays little or no understanding of the prompt. The response is poorly written and organized and may contain significant fact, grammar, punctuation and/or spelling errors that detract from the clarity of the response.

OVER

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THE PROCESS FOR THE STUDENTS

Read the essay prompt.

Freak out.

Take the test.

Read the essay prompt.

Write an outline.

Read the prompt.

Write a draft.

Read the prompt.

Edit and rewrite.

THE PROCESS FOR THE JUDGES

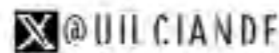
Read the essay prompt.

Freak out.

READ THE PROMPTS



CURRENT ISSUES & EVENTS



ESSAY PROMPTS 2022-2024

THE ESSAY

NOTE: Contestants who do not write an essay will be disqualified. Essay length is not a major grading factor as long as the essay is substantial and demonstrates a sincere effort to discuss the assigned topic. Content is more important than form. Including historical, political, economic, social and cultural, when relevant. Avoid including your personal opinions, as more than enough information on the subject has been published.

A focused, concise and specific essay may be a vague and rambling essay.

STATE 2024

Climate change is "the most important threat, probably, on Earth," according to Claudia Dreifus, an reporter in Columbia University's master's thesis on climate change, "and it's very difficult to report on." Still, there has been plenty of news regarding climate change in the last year.

According to the Environmental Protection Agency, heat in Texas has almost doubled and the number of days with temperatures in the 90s has increased. In the summer, the number of days with temperatures in the 90s has increased, yet the fall is becoming drier. Droughts are becoming more intense, and floods are becoming more severe. Texas leads the nation in both the most frequent severe weather events and the most expensive weather events, accounting for 15% of all U.S. billion-dollar disasters, according to NOAA. From 1980 to 2022, Texas experienced 17 billion-dollar climate disaster events. So, it's not surprising that Texas is one of the states that is most affected by sea level rise and coastal erosion.

Discuss some impacts of climate change in 2024 on the United States generally and some on Texas specifically, including, but not limited to, impacts on the environment, economy, agriculture, energy, political system and the society.

REGION 2023

Russia's war against Ukraine is causing a humanitarian, social and economic crisis for the Ukrainian people. Further, this full-scale military invasion is also having an impact outside Ukraine. Discuss some of the political, economic, scientific, social and cultural consequences of the war, particularly consequences on the United States. District 2023

The Texas Legislature opened on Jan. 10 and will run for 140 days until May 30. But already, much of the agenda of the 181 members is set. Discuss some of the people leading the legislature, the issues they have on their agenda and the challenges they face.

DISTRICT 2023

The Texas Legislature opened on Jan. 10 and will run for 140 days until May 30. But already, much of the agenda of the 181 members is set. Discuss some of the people leading the legislature, the issues they have on their agenda and the challenges they face.

INVITATIONAL B 2023

During the last six months of 2022 and the first few months of 2023, citizens of countries all over the world saw smooth transitions in top public officials while others saw riots as new leaders

personnel if not political party.

a random sample of people. "What do you think is wrong today?" In February 2022, the top five responses

Republican victories, with

its path brought by surging

election as well as outcome

in the campaign trail, particularly after the Super Tuesday, but immigration continues to top the list.

consequential political events

announcing Russia's "special

operation" — and ultimately to achieve

control in 1991 when 92% of

that Putin wants control of

and, sparking the first Arab-Israeli War. The war

the United States — have

Times, "For nearly a decade,

of making their state

the 1990s. As the first primary

has still have a long way to

attacks against Israel had no precedent in the 25 years

in Texas, the first since the

fractured the outcome of the

of the violence spawned Israelis.

on for no more than 140 days every other year, in

and meeting for the 140th day every year and

in four special sessions a year's end meeting almost as many days as the regular session. Discuss

the actions legislators took — or didn't take — during the third and fourth special sessions as

well as the trial of the attorney general.

INVITATIONAL A 2024

Technology has been altering the news this academic year. Discuss public perception and understanding of technological changes and technological advancements in the news recently from political, scientific and economic angles.

STATE 2023

Public education advocates created a wish list of issues they wanted Texas legislators to prioritize. Topping that list was increasing state funding for public schools. But funding isn't the

of interest. Whether it's

is considered when presidents

anti-Communist and his

challenged the general secretary

George H.W. Bush dealt with

to keep China out of Taiwan.

foreign policy.

set in stone after his first

term in office and support the

national and/or economic grounds.

is, parents were showing

to problems with the supply

chains, the economy showed

issues was the supply chain

U.S. economy and one sign of

chain problems.

art, have been busy so far this

advance. Pick any two cases

you think reflect society as it

is or not.

THE JUDGING PROCESS



- Divide the papers among the judges.
- Each judge should read and assign a score individually without conferring with the other judges.



JUDGE NAME _____

ESSAY SCORING

CURRENT ISSUES AND EVENTS | SOCIAL STUDIES

Each essay will be read and assigned a score by each judge individually based on the appropriate scale. Once the judges have graded all essays independently, they will, collectively, determine the final score by consensus. | The essay should be judged on content first, Writing style, clarity and precision of composition should be secondary considerations. | In the question of quality versus quantity, judges will determine whether an essay that introduces many points shall be scored higher than an essay that develops fewer points more substantially.

ENTRANT NUMBER	THESIS / ARGUMENT / EVIDENCE	WEAKNESSES	SCORE

THE JUDGING PROCESS



After all judges have read all the papers and individually assigned scores, compare results and develop a consensus score.

Mark the scores on the paper / rubric.

Provide students with constructive criticism.

THE JUDGING PROCESS

Rubric for the CLE Essay

Judges may award all or no points. This is a working document for as many as three judges. Final points are a compromise among judges, NOT A RUNNING POINT TOTAL or pure point averaging. Return this form to the student with the objective portion of the contest.

Points AWARDED:

An 8-10 ESSAY opens with a declarative statement that extends the prompt without re-stating it. The thesis is supported by substantial, relevant information that analyzes the prompt from a range of perspectives — for example, political, social, cultural and economic. It does not provide a mere shopping list of facts. It interprets the facts without editorializing. The essay is well written and organized with few spelling, grammar or punctuation errors. The essay is clear, precise and succinct.

A 5-7 ESSAY offers a clear thesis with limited development. It either deals with one aspect in depth or with all aspects more superficially while providing limited analysis. Generally good writing and organization skills displayed. May contain errors of fact that do not seriously detract from the quality of the essay.

A 2-4 ESSAY lacks a thesis or presents a confused or undeveloped thesis. It deals with the prompt in a superficial way and offers no analysis. Instead, it tends to editorialize. May contain major fact errors, display poor writing skills and rely on bloated, pretentious language.

A 0-1 ESSAY displays little or no understanding of the prompt. The response is poorly written and organized and may contain significant fact, grammar, punctuation and/or spelling errors that detract from the clarity of the response.

Judge 1	Judge 2	Judge 3	Consensus
3	3	3	3

Comments:

- Lacked thesis
- Needed more development

OVERALL ESSAY SCORE (maximum of 10 points)	3 ✓
OBJECTIVE SCORE (score from the objective portion of the test)	26 ✓
OVERALL SCORE (add essay score to objective score)	29

Mark the scores on the paper / rubric.

THE JUDGING PROCESS

In a three-person judging panel, must every judge grade each essay? YES! If more than one person judges essays, make certain that judges reach agreement on which essay is the best. Do not rely solely on point totals. One judge may be more stringent than another. It is possible that a weaker essay, graded by a more lenient judge, can be awarded more points than a stronger essay, graded by a more strict judge.

WHAT'S NEW

NOT MUCH. BUT...

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A PROMPT

CURRENT ISSUES AND EVENTS [REGION 2019](#)

The U.S. economy, the world's third-largest economy, is strong. The Gross Domestic Product is growing at about 2.6% per year. Unemployment was only 3.8% in February. Inflation is only 2.2%. While the national debt is about \$22 trillion, 113 percent of GDP, most economists say that is only unhealthy for short periods.

Not all other countries have economies that are that healthy.

Pick three other countries – not the United States – and discuss economic problems they have been having so far this academic year and the sociopolitical situations surrounding them.

THE PROMPT

CURRENT ISSUES AND EVENTS **STATE 2018**

The academic year has been a year of social movements including, but not limited to, #metoo, #timesup, #neveragain, #blacklivesmatter, #nobannowall. Some of these started in 2017 or 2018. Some are decades old but got new life this year. Pick two or three of the movements active this academic year and discuss the circumstances surrounding each.

The academic year of 2017-2018 has witnessed an impressive amount of movements based around society. Each movement involves different groups of people with a uniting factor, which allows them to introduce change not only in America but also on an international scale. Three of the most important social movements are the #metoo movement, the #blacklivesmatter movement, and the movement centered around gun violence led by the survivors of Marjory Stoneman Douglass High School.

February 17, 2018, oversaw a horrendous massacre of students in Parkland, Florida; however, the day also allowed roots to dig in for the coming change in America. Following the depressed period of mourning, survivors of Nikolas Cruz's rampage began advocating for stricter gun laws to better protect America's schools system. Directly one month after the shooting, the first March for Our Lives took place across the country with famous supporters such as George and Amal Clooney and Elizabeth Warren. The event gained traction quickly with thousands of Americans marching across the nation and having multiple speeches given by organizers like Emma Gonzalez, a survivor and figurehead of the movement. During April, the marches influence spread and caused standards to further their advocacy on gun laws to walk out of the classroom. Multiple walkouts occurred throughout the month both in favor of and against the movement.

After witnessing the immense talking about gun violence, two major retailers — Walmart and Dick's Sporting Goods — stopped selling assault-style weapons and high-

THE PROMPT

SOCIAL STUDIES REGION 2019

Just as Gandhi's actions drew inspiration from Henry David Thoreau's views on passive resistance so too did his ideas influence Martin Luther King Jr.'s approach to affecting change. These beliefs and their accompanying tactics were emulated by numerous movements around the world and in the United States. Discuss the use, effectiveness, and limitations of passive resistance in advancing the causes of U.S. civil rights movements.

THE PROMPT

SOCIAL STUDIES STATE 2019

"SNCC is special because we are young. We're 17, 18, 19, 20, 21 year-olds. Most of us have dropped out of school so we're no longer students, but we don't have mortgages, we don't have car payments, we don't have families, we don't have husbands and wives and children, so we can do these things. And because we're young we are also foolish and we are willing to take risk."

-Julian Bond, *The Century: America's Time*

Many young people likened their work in the black civil rights movement to military service inasmuch that they may have to lay down their lives in order to achieve victory. However, the same youthful exuberance that energized campaigns also led to eventual fissures in the overall movement. Younger leaders felt stymied by the glacial pace of reform seemingly endorsed by their elders and sought more aggressive, sometimes militant, tactics. Discuss the impact youth had on the black civil rights efforts in the United States. Be sure to mention key individuals, groups, and events that accelerated and/or hindered the movement.

LET'S TRY IT

LET'S TRY IT

- Read essay
- Assign it a score – **ON YOUR OWN**. Write that score down where only you can see it. Do NOT reveal your individual score to anyone.
- Get in a group of three
- Review the essay's strengths and weaknesses
- Assign it a score – **AS A GROUP**. Write that score down.
- We'll discuss as a large group.



University
Interscholastic
League

CURRENT
ISSUES
&
EVENTS

@UILCIANDE

SOCIAL
STUDIES

@MRACADEMICS

RUBRIC

for Social Studies and CI&E essays

Judges may award all or no points. This is a working document for as many as three judges.
Final points are a compromise among judges, NOT A RUNNING POINT TOTAL or pure point averaging. Return this form to the student with the objective portion of the contest.

POINTS AWARDED:

Judge 1	Judge 2	Judge 3	Consensus
_____	_____	_____	_____

An 16-20 ESSAY opens with a declarative statement that extends the prompt without re-stating it. The thesis is supported by substantial, relevant information that analyzes the prompt from a range of perspectives — for example, social, political, economic, cultural and scientific. It does not provide a mere shopping list of facts. It interprets the facts without editorializing. The essay is well written and organized with few spelling, grammar or punctuation errors. The essay is clear, precise and succinct.

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A 0-5 ESSAY displays little or no understanding of the prompt. The response is poorly written and organized and may contain significant fact, grammar, punctuation and/or spelling errors that detract from the clarity of the response.

Comments:

OVERALL ESSAY SCORE _____
(maximum of 20 points)

OBJECTIVE SCORE _____
(score from the objective
portion of the test)

OVERALL SCORE _____
(add essay score
to objective score)

THE PROMPT

CURRENT ISSUES AND EVENTS [STATE 2023](#)

Public education advocates created a wish list of issues they wanted Texas legislators to prioritize. Topping that list was increasing state funding for public schools. But funding isn't the only education-related issue on the agenda of the Texas Legislature or the U.S. Legislature. While the establishment of education is one of the powers reserved to the states, members of both the executive and legislative branches at the national level have tried to make changes in various aspects of the educational system. In addition to funding, pick two issues at the state and/or federal level that relate to K-12 education in Texas. Discuss the political, economic, social and cultural aspects of all three issues (funding and two others of your choice) in a well-organized and informative essay.

THE ESSAY

Over the past 30 years, Texas schools have seen many changes. With the introduction of new technology along with having to adapt to student needs, it has been difficult for many schools to keep up. Add that to the now looming threat of student safety and you have the requirement of a totally reformed Texas schooling system.

In recent years, schools in Texas (and schools across the country) have experienced disasters related to student safety. With the tragedy at Uvalde still fresh on our minds many schools have seen an influx of safety regulations applied to their schools. Gone are the days where students could freely roam the halls or enter and exit the school. With the new wave of protection policies, education and schools will be conducted in a more safe manner.

Along with safety, another protuding change coming to Texas schools is the adaptation to specific student needs. Not all students learn the same way and Texas schools are beginning to realize it. This way, students will now be able to experience a more 1-on-1 teaching experience.

Some people are going to have to face it, Texas schools are changing. Funding is no longer targeted towards athletics but rather to the student. It may not be the way that past generations of Texans learned but these changes will only better the education and protection of the student.

THE ESSAY

WHAT SCORE WOULD YOU ASSIGN IT — 0-10?

THE ESSAY

Rubric for the CI&E Essay

Judges may award all or no points. This is a working document for as many as three judges. Final points are a compromise among judges, NOT A RUNNING POINT TOTAL or pure point averaging. Return this form to the student with the objective portion of the contest.

■ Points AWARDED:

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A 0-1 ESSAY displays little or no understanding of the prompt. The response is poorly written and organized and may contain significant fact, grammar, punctuation and/or spelling errors that detract from the clarity of the response.

Judge 1	Judge 2	Judge 3	Consensus
---------	---------	---------	-----------

3	3	3	3
---	---	---	---

Comments:

- Lacked thesis
- Needed more development

OVERALL ESSAY SCORE
(maximum of 10 points)

3 ✓

OBJECTIVE SCORE
(score from the objective portion of the test)

26 ✓

OVERALL SCORE
(add essay score to objective score)

29

THE ESSAY

LET'S LOOK AT ANOTHER ONE

THE ESSAY

Public education is now undoubtedly at the forefront of debate in legislatures around the country. States are now making drastic changes to what teachers can say and do. In addition to debate about funding, the Texas legislature has worked towards banning transwomen from women's sports and banning CRT from the education system.

Arguments about public education are not a new phenomenon. In fact, it's been a point of debate for centuries. In modern America, the question primarily applies to whether state and federal governments should give private school vouchers to parents wanting to send their children to private schools. The issue gained some traction after the idea was floated by President Bush, but recently resurged since 2021. In Texas, the measure is currently going through the legislature but some rural Republicans aren't on board.

but some rural Republicans aren't on board. Citing loss of funding for their already poor schools. The Texas legislature recently passed a bill to ban trans people from women's sports. The issue has sparked outrage from the trans community and its allies as transphobic and cruel, while those who support the bill state that it protects women's sports. President Joe Biden has threatened to withhold federal funding from any school that bans trans people from competing.

Finally, the legislature banned CRT under the definition that it teaches kids that "one race is inherently superior or inferior, that one is responsible for their ancestors' actions, or that one is oppressive or oppressed because of their race."

While most scholars agree that that's not the definition of CRT, the bill was signed into law by Governor Abbott and has been attacked by Democrats and some independents.

Education has become an increasingly polarized and partisan issue, and that will likely not change. Democrats and Republicans have discovered a new issue to legislate, and the damage it is causing is clear to see. Schools are being defunded, teachers are being censored, and school board meetings are becoming loud and violent.

THE ESSAY

WHAT SCORE WOULD YOU ASSIGN IT — 0-10?

CURRENT ISSUES & EVENTS

 @UILCIANDE

SOCIAL STUDIES

 @MRACADEMICS

An 16-20 ESSAY opens with a declarative statement that extends the prompt without re-stating it. The thesis is supported by substantial, relevant information that analyzes the prompt from a range of perspectives — for example, social, political, economic, cultural and scientific. It does not provide a mere shopping list of facts. It interprets the facts without editorializing. The essay is well written and organized with few spelling, grammar or punctuation errors. The essay is clear, precise and succinct.

A 11-15 ESSAY offers a clear thesis with limited development. It either deals with one aspect in depth or with all aspects more superficially while providing limited analysis. Generally good writing and organization skills displayed. May contain errors of fact that do not seriously detract from the quality of the essay.

A 6-10 ESSAY lacks a thesis or presents a confused or undeveloped thesis. It deals with the prompt in a superficial way and offers no analysis. Instead, it tends to editorialize. May contain major fact errors, display poor writing skills and rely on bloated, pretentious language.

A 0-5 ESSAY displays little or no understanding of the prompt. The response is poorly written and organized and may contain significant fact, grammar, punctuation and/or spelling errors that detract from the clarity of the response.

Comments:

OVERALL ESSAY SCORE _____
(maximum of 20 points)

OBJECTIVE SCORE _____

THE ESSAY

Rubric for the CI&E Essay

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■ Points AWARDED:

An 8-10 ESSAY opens with a declarative statement that extends the prompt without re-stating it. The thesis is supported by substantial, relevant information that analyzes the prompt from a range of perspectives — for example, political, social, cultural and economic. It does not provide a mere shopping list of facts. It interprets the facts without editorializing. The essay is well written and organized with few spelling, grammar or punctuation errors. The essay is clear, precise and succinct.

A 5-7 ESSAY offers a clear thesis with limited development. It either deals with one aspect in depth or with all aspects more superficially while providing limited analysis. Generally good writing and organization skills displayed. May contain errors of fact that do not seriously detract from the quality of the essay.

A 2-4 ESSAY lacks a thesis or presents a confused or undeveloped thesis. It deals with the prompt in a superficial way and offers no analysis. Instead, it tends to editorialize. May contain major fact errors, display poor writing skills and rely on bloated, pretentious language.

A 0-1 ESSAY displays little or no understanding of the prompt. The response is poorly written and organized and may contain significant fact, grammar, punctuation and/or spelling errors that detract from the clarity of the response.

Judge 1	Judge 2	Judge 3	Consensus
---------	---------	---------	-----------

5

Comments:

OVERALL ESSAY SCORE

(maximum of 10 points)

5 ✓

OBJECTIVE SCORE

(score from the objective portion of the test)

32 ✓

OVERALL SCORE

(add essay score to objective score)

37

THE PROMPT

CURRENT ISSUES AND EVENTS [STATE 2019](#)

The year 1992 might have been the first to get the label "Year of the Woman" after the election of a number of female senators and the hotly contested Senate confirmation hearings for Supreme Court nominee Clarence Thomas when Anita Hill raised concern about the dominance of men in the Senate. However, when historians look back, they'll unquestionably view the academic year 2018-2019 as a year of the woman as well.

Using substantial, relevant information and varying national and international perspectives (political, social, cultural, economic) with at least three specific examples, analyze the idea that 2018-2019 was another "Year of the Woman."

GRADE THE ESSAY

I'm certainly in favor of calling this the Year of the Woman. And its about time.

I mean just look at what happened in Congress this year.

• 117 women were elected or appointed to Congress

Around the world. Worldwide, women led some 26 countries as elected heads of state, including Germany, Bangladesh and Lithuania. Angla Merkel, for example, has been described as the de facto leader of the Europeon Union, the most powerful woman in the world, and as the leader of the Free World. Merkel announced in December that she would not seek reelection as her party's leader nor would she continue as chancellor after 2021. She was the country's first female chancellor.

Of course it was also a woman, Theresa May, who lead the efforts of the United Kingdom to leave the European Union.

Not all women are success stories.

GRADE THE ESSAY

I'm certainly in favor of calling this the Year of the Woman. And its about time.

I mean just look at what happened in Congress this year.

- 117 women were elected or appointed to Congress.
- 102 women were elected to the House.
- 15 women were elected or appointed to the Senate.
- 36 women are new members.

And thats just at the national level. At the local level, one-fourth of state legislatures was female.

Around the world, Worldwide, women led some 26 countries as elected heads of state, including Germany, Bangladesh and Lithuania. Angla Merkel, for example, has been described as the de facto leader of the European Union, the most powerful woman in the world, and as the leader of the Free World. Merkel announced in December that she would not seek reelection as her party's leader nor would she continue as chancellor after 2021. She was the country's first female chancellor.

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Not all women are success stories.

Women also celebrated big successes in sports and science.

Sarah Thomas was the first female official to work in NFL postseason history. It was only last summer when two black women became the first time two women to officiate an NBA game together. The NBA got its first female referee in 1997. And last fall, the NBA promoted five referees to full-time status, including the fourth and fifth women in league history to achieve full-time status.

NASA astronauts Anne McClain and Christina Koch we're set to make history on March 29 as the first all-female crew to perform a spacewalk at the International Space Station. NASA said the spacewalk was delayed, "due in part to spacesuit availability."

Greta Thunberg, 16, my age, hasnt graduated high school, but shes already a nominee for the Nobel Peace Prize. The Swedish activist is being considered for the honor in recognition of her work in the fight against climate change. I wish I were smart enough to be nominated for a Nobel Prize.

It was in 1920 when the 19th Amendment was finally ratified guaranteeing all American women the right to vote. But it was 100 years later when we celebrated the Year of the Woman.

THE PROMPT

CURRENT ISSUES AND EVENTS [STATE 2021](#)

The statement from the White House on Jan. 20 began, "President Biden is sending a bill to Congress on day one to restore humanity and American values to our immigration system." But over the next few months, what happened along America's southern border, a border with Mexico, was frustrating for the Biden administration as well as state and local officials and seen as anything but humane by observers from both parties.

Describe some of the challenges local, state and federal officials have faced in recent months along the border, what might be behind the problems at the border and what is being done about these problems."

GRADE THE ESSAY

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What are some challenges at the southern border
of the United States. One of the main challenges
is the large amount of human trafficking trafficking hundreds
of thousands of illegal immigrants into our country. Another
challenge on the local level is the release of the illegal
immigrant into the general public without being properly
tested for infection such as COVID-19 and then
causing spikes in these communities along the
Rio Grande in Texas. A challenge on the state level is
trying to put large amount of law enforcement on the
border but also have enough of it in rest of the state
to keep rest of the state safe also. A way Greg Abbott help with these
two is with the lone star taskforce. What might behind the
swipe in illegal immigrant is current President administration main
campaign point was reversing the past administration border
policies and having a open border. A way this problem has been
fix reversing back to the past administration policies. In conclusion

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WHAT GRADE DID YOU GIVE IT?

POINTS AWARDED:

An 16-20 ESSAY opens with a declarative statement that extends the prompt without re-stating it. The thesis is supported by substantial, relevant information that analyzes the prompt from a range of perspectives — for example, social, political, economic, cultural and scientific. It does not provide a mere shopping list of facts. It interprets the facts without editorializing. The essay is well written and organized with few spelling, grammar or punctuation errors. The essay is clear, precise and succinct.

A 11-15 ESSAY offers a clear thesis with limited development. It either deals with one aspect in depth or with all aspects more superficially while providing limited analysis. Generally good writing and organization skills displayed. May contain errors of fact that do not seriously detract from the quality of the essay.

A 6-10 ESSAY lacks a thesis or presents a confused or undeveloped thesis. It deals with the prompt in a superficial way and offers no analysis. Instead, it tends to editorialize. May contain major fact errors, display poor writing skills and rely on bloated, pretentious language.

A 0-5 ESSAY displays little or no understanding of the prompt. The response is poorly written and organized and may contain significant fact

Judge 1

Judge 2

Judge 3

Consensus

Comments:

OVERALL ESSAY SCORE _____

GRADE THE ESSAY

COMMENTS FROM JUDGES

I fear that this essay very heavily editorializes. Try to maintain an objective, sort of analytical tone, at all times.- Make sure to organize the essay. Include a thesis, separate paragraphs, and transitions.- Strive to add more specific factuality. For example, what are the specific Trump policies that Biden has reversed? Is Biden really advocating for an open border?

Essay needs a thesis and information to support that statement

Opening: No thesis just jump in to the essay...work on giving the readers a roadmap for the essay. Cause of Problem: potentially new administration roll back of past polices Challenges: Human trafficking, potential spikes in Covid, State level man hours in law enforcement to Solutions: N/A

GRADE THE ESSAY

Following the inauguration of President Joe Biden, southern border crossings by undocumented migrants have skyrocketed - reaching the highest level in over a decade by some metrics. This "crisis", as some have deemed it, has drawn the ire of Republican leaders who hope to capitalize on the politically controversial issue and resulted in promises to address the issue from the halls of the Capitol and the Biden Administration itself.

The increase in crossings by undocumented migrants may partly be driven by the belief that President Biden is more receptive to the plight of Central Americans than his Republican predecessor Donald Trump. Policy changes might also have contributed to the phenomenon. Biden terminated a Trump-era policy that required asylum seekers to seek asylum in bordering

sequent increase in migrants has resulted in detention centers becoming overwhelmed well beyond capacity. This harkens back to the crisis in Summer 2019 under President Trump. Republicans have focused upon the issue. For example, GOP including Senators Ted Cruz (TX), and Lindsey (), organized a trip to the border and an immigration Republican Texas Governor Greg Abbott alleged widespread sexual abuse of accompanied minors in these camps and expressed concerns about the impact of COVID-19 by migrants.

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thru fight climate change, was recently floated. Some Republican legislators, such as Senator Graham, have expressed some enthusiasm for amnesty (or at least an easier path to documentation), ~~the~~ opening the pathway for bipartisan Congressional reform. With President Joe Biden's first hundred days recently ending, the former Delaware* senator has yet to release a comprehensive policy solution. However, we may soon have one as just yesterday Biden replied to protesters urging him to abolish ICE: "Just give me five days."

* as in a Senator representing Delaware at the federal level

WHAT GRADE DID YOU GIVE IT?

POINTS AWARDED:

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A 6-10 ESSAY lacks a thesis or presents a confused or undeveloped thesis. It deals with the prompt in a superficial way

Judge 1

Judge 2

Judge 3

Comments:

GRADE THE ESSAY

COMMENTS FROM JUDGES

Good writing. I appreciate this author writes with a little style (say, that nice quip to end the essay).; - The essay is well-written with a sound basis in facts. Each paragraph is driven by logical analysis. - My only quibble is that the essay ignores some major factors in the current crisis: the numbers of children crossing and the conditions in Central America that are driving the situation.

GRADE THE ESSAY

SOCIAL STUDIES INVITATIONAL ?

Put prompt here

haven't served as president or minister of a state.

Being influential does not stop at political leaders. For example, Kalpana Chawla was the first woman of Indian descent to fly in space; Subbulakshmi was a Carnatic singer, who sang at a UN meeting, being the first Indian to do so; Droupadi Murmu was the first tribal community president of India.

Given this information, there are countless influential women throughout history, who serve to empower and influence the world today. Even now, India has given more seats to women in parliament, becoming the largest democracy to do so. As time goes on, women all over will continue to break records, recalling upon these previous South Asian leaders.

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LOOK FOR ESSAYS THAT

Are simple and to the point.

Open with a clear statement.

Are organized.

Flow smoothly and move forward logically.

Use a conclusion to bring ideas full circle.

Don't rant.

Aren't silly.

CONTACT US



SOCIAL STUDIES

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CURRENT ISSUES

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