

How to Write a Historical Inquiry Essay

<p>Introduction.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Summarize the event or issue (include what, who, when, where if applicable). 2. Explain the question in one sentence. 3. Explain the various arguments or why people disagree on the question. What are arguments for both sides? 4. Write a thesis. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Make sure you answer the question. b. Leave out “I” statements. c. Be specific. Do not just write yes or no or good or bad. Make sure you offer a reason why. Your statement should pass the “how” or “why” test. d. Could someone oppose or challenge your position? If not, you have a summary, not an argument. e. It should be one or two sentences in length. 	<p>Introduction.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In [date] . . . 2. Historians disagree about . . . There is disagreement over . . . Arguments vary over . . . 3. Some say . . . while others argue . . . On one hand . . . but on the other hand . . . 4. Ultimately [event, person, program] was When all the facts are considered . . . The evidence shows that . . . It is clear that . . . A closer look at _____ reveals that . . . The reality is that . . .
<p>Supporting Paragraph.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Name the strongest reason that supports your argument. 2. Select a quote or other detailed evidence to support your reason and explain who/where it comes from. Make sure you discuss why the source you chose is reliable or the reason your reader can trust your source. 3. Explain how your quote or evidence supports your argument. 	<p>Supporting Paragraph.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. One reasons is . . . First all . . . Secondly . . . Another reason is . . . In addition . . . Moreover . . . 2. In [location, date], [person, group and why they are reliable] wrote . . . 3. His/her quote shows that . . . This example/quote shows that . . .
<p>Supporting Paragraph.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Name the strongest reason that supports your argument. 2. Select a quote or other detailed evidence to support your reason and explain who/where it comes from. Make sure you discuss why the source you chose is reliable or the reason your reader can trust your source. 3. Explain how your quote or evidence supports your argument. 	
<p>Rebuttal Paragraph.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Choose the strongest reason that goes against your argument but explains the other perspective. 2. Select a quote or other evidence that supports this opposite perspective. 3. Rebut or reject the opposing evidence. A suggestion is to attack author’s reliability (the influences, contexts, or motives, and/or the quality of the author’s facts and examples). 	<p>Rebuttal Paragraph.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. On the other hand . . . It may be argued that . . . While . . . Those who disagree, believe _____, but they are ... 2. In [location, date], [person, group] wrote . . . 3. But there is a problem with [his/her] thinking because . . . [Name of person] was more reliable because . . .
<p>Conclusion.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Write your answer to the historical question. 2. Explain why someone should choose your perspective over the other perspective. 	<p>Conclusion.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ultimately [event, person, program] was When all the facts are considered . . . The evidence shows that . . . For all these reasons, . . . In conclusion . . . As it has been noted Based on the evidence presented/examined it is clear that ...