

Thematic Review  
Packet  
Global Regents

On the following pages you will find essays on the major themes that the Regents likes to ask about.

But first...

### **What is a theme?**

**Answer:** A general overarching idea.

### **What is a Thematic Essay?**

**Answer:** An essay in which the writer must relate specific historical examples to a theme.

### **Do some of the historical events I use for one Thematic essay fit into others?**

**Answer:** YES but... you must relate the specific examples you use to the THEME.

### **Example:**

Themes: Change, Economic Systems, Political Systems

List of examples:

Neolithic Revolution

Industrial Revolution

Imperialism

Enlightenment

SEE CHART ON THE NEXT PAGE...

	Change	Economic Systems	Political Systems
Neolithic Revolution	Move from nomadic life to farming created <b>changes</b> in...	The Neolithic Revolution changed the <b>economic system</b> of ancient man to one of barter and trade.	<b>Not a good choice</b>
Industrial Revolution	Was a <b>change</b> from agriculture and cottage industry to factories...	The Ind. Rev. changed the <b>economic systems</b> of Europe because it fostered the growth of the Middle Class and...	<b>Not a good choice</b>
Imperialism	Imperialism <b>changed</b> the governments and social systems of Africa, China and India...	Imperialism started the European <b>economic practice</b> of Mercantilism.	Imperialism changed the <b>political system</b> of China by placing it under the influence of foreign governments.
Enlightenment	The Enlightenment <b>changed</b> peoples belief in the form and function of government.	<b>Not a good choice</b>	The Enlightenment led to the end of absolute monarchy and the start of representative government. (both are <b>political systems</b> )

You could use any of these to talk about different themes but you can't just describe them you must tell us how they relate to the **THEME**.

On the next page you have a rubric... **THIS IS THE RUBRIC WE USE TO SCORE YOUR ESSAY READ IT!!!**

## THEMATIC ESSAY QUESTION

*Directions:* Write a well-organized essay that includes an introduction, several paragraphs addressing the task below, and a conclusion.

**Theme:** Belief Systems

There are a variety of belief systems practiced throughout the world today. Many of these beliefs have developed massive followings, and as a result, have had a considerable amount of influence on culture in the areas where they are practiced.

**Task:**

Choose *two* belief systems from your study of global history, and for *each* one:

- Identify the nation or region where it was founded.
- Describe two basic teachings of the belief system.
- Discuss how the belief system has influenced the culture of the areas in which it is currently practiced.

You may use any example from your study of global history. Do *not* use the United States in your answer. Some suggestions that you may wish to consider include: Judaism, Christianity, Hinduism, Islam, Buddhism, Shinto, Animism, Confucianism, and Taoism.

**You are *not* limited to these suggestions.**

**NOTE:** The rubric (scoring criteria) for this essay appears on the next page.

## THEMATIC ESSAY GENERIC SCORING RUBRIC

### Score of 5:

- Shows a thorough understanding of the theme
- Addresses all aspects of the task
- Shows an ability to analyze, evaluate, compare, and/or contrast issues and events
- Richly supports essay with relevant facts, examples, and details
- Is a well-developed essay, consistently demonstrating a logical and clear plan of organization
- Introduces the theme or problem by establishing a framework that is beyond a simple restatement of the task and concludes with a summation of the theme or problem

### Score of 4:

- Shows a good understanding of the theme
- Addresses all aspects of the task
- Shows an ability to analyze, evaluate, compare, and/or contrast issues and events
- Includes relevant facts, examples, and details, but may not support all aspects of the task evenly
- Is a well-developed essay, demonstrating a logical and clear plan of organization
- Introduces the theme or problem by establishing a framework that is beyond a simple restatement of the task and concludes with a summation of the theme or problem

### Score of 3:

- Shows a satisfactory understanding of the theme or problem
- Addresses most aspects of the task or addresses all aspects in a limited way
- Shows an ability to analyze or evaluate issues and events, but not in any depth
- Includes some facts, examples, and details
- Is a satisfactorily developed essay, demonstrating a general plan of organization
- Introduces the theme or problem by repeating the task and concludes by repeating the theme or problem

### Score of 2:

- Shows limited understanding of the theme or problem
- Attempts to address the task
- Develops a faulty analysis or evaluation of issues and events
- Includes few facts, examples, and details, and may include information that contains inaccuracies
- Is a poorly organized essay lacking focus
- Fails to introduce or summarize the theme or problem

### Score of 1:

- Shows limited understanding of the theme or problem
- Lacks an analysis or evaluation of the issues and events
- Includes little or no accurate or relevant facts, examples, or details
- Attempts to complete the task, but demonstrates a major weakness in organization
- Fails to introduce or summarize the theme or problem

**Score of 0:** Fails to address the theme, is illegible, or is a blank paper



## THEMATIC ESSAY QUESTION

*Directions:* Write a well-organized essay that includes an introduction, several paragraphs addressing the task below, and a conclusion.

**Theme:** Change – Turning Points

Political, economic, and social conditions have often led to turning points that have changed the course of history for nations and peoples.

**Task:**

Identify *two* turning points from your study of global history.

- Describe the causes and key events that led to the turning point
- Explain how *each* turning point changed the course of history for nations and peoples

You may use any geographic feature from your study of global history. Do *not* use the United States in your answer. Some suggestions you might wish to consider include: Neolithic Revolution, the fall of the Roman Empire, Commercial Revolution, the year 1492, French Revolution, the year 1914, Chinese Communist Revolution, the collapse of European imperialism, the fall of the Berlin Wall/collapse of Soviet Union.

**You are *not* limited to these suggestions.**

**NOTE:** The rubric (scoring criteria) for this essay appears on the next page.

**Thesis Statement:**

<b>Turning Point</b>	<b>Causes and events leading up to the turning point (USE BULLET POINTS)</b>	<b>Influence on the course of history, people and nations. (USE BULLET POINTS)</b>
1.		
2.		



## THEMATIC ESSAY QUESTION

*Directions:* Write a well-organized essay that includes an introduction, several paragraphs addressing the task below, and a conclusion.

**Theme:** Economic Change

Since the 19th century, industrialization has had positive and negative effects on the lives of workers.

**Task:**

- Define the term “industrialization”
- Select *one* nation you have studied and discuss *two* specific examples of the ways in which industrialization changed the lives of workers in that nation
- Discuss the response of the workers, reformers, and/or government to these changes

You may use any nation from your study of global history *except the United States*. Some suggestions you might wish to consider include: Great Britain (19th century), Japan (19th or 20th century), Russia (19th or 0th century), Korea (post–World War II), and Brazil (20<sup>th</sup> century).

**You are *not* limited to these suggestions.**

**Thesis Statement:**

**Define: Industrialization-**

**Nation:** \_\_\_\_\_

**TWO specific (NOT GENERAL) examples of how industrialization changed peoples lives:  
(USE BULLET POINTS)**

**1.**

**2.**

**What was the response from workers: (USE BULLET POINTS)**

**Reformers:**

**Government:**

## THEMATIC ESSAY QUESTION

*Directions:* Write a well-organized essay that includes an introduction, several paragraphs addressing the task below, and a conclusion.

**Theme:** Geography

Geographic features can positively or negatively affect the development of a nation or region.

**Task:**

Select *one* geographic feature from your study of global history.

- Explain how this geographic feature has had an effect on the historical development of *two* nations or regions.

Be sure to include specific historical examples in your essay.

You may use any geographic feature from your study of global history. Some suggestions you might wish to consider include: river valley, mountain, desert, island, rain forest, and climate. Do *not* use the United States in your answer.

**You are *not* limited to these suggestions.**

**NOTE:** The rubric (scoring criteria) for this essay appears on the next page.

**Thesis Statement:**

**Geographic Feature:**

- Explain how this geographic feature has had an effect on the historical development of *two* nations or regions.
- Be sure to include **specific historical examples** in your essay.

**Nation / Region 1 (USE BULLET POINTS)**

**General effect of feature:**

**Specific Historical Example(s):**

**Nation / Region 2 (USE BULLET POINTS)**

**General effect of feature:**

**Specific Historical Example(s):**

## THEMATIC ESSAY QUESTION

*Directions:* Write a well-organized essay that includes an introduction, several paragraphs addressing the task below, and a conclusion.

**Theme:** Culture and Intellectual Life

Throughout history, many cultures have experienced a Golden Age when great advances were made in a variety of different fields.

**Task:**

- Identify *two* different cultures that experienced a Golden Age.
- Describe the specific achievements of each culture identified.
- Explain how these achievements continue to influence the modern world.

**You may use any culture from your study of global history *except the United States.***

**Some suggestions you might wish to consider include:** Athens in the 5th century BCE, the Gupta Dynasty in India, the Islamic world from the 8th through the 12th centuries, the Tang Dynasty in China, the Heian Period in Japan, and the Renaissance in Europe. You are not limited to these suggestions.

**You are *not* limited to these suggestions.**

**NOTE:** The rubric (scoring criteria) for this essay appears on the next page.

**Thesis Statement:**

<b>Golden Age 1:</b>	<b>Golden Age 2:</b>
<b>SPECIFIC Achievements:</b>	<b>SPECIFIC Achievements:</b>
<b>Influence of achievements on the modern day.</b>	<b>Influence of achievements on the modern day.</b>

## THEMATIC ESSAY QUESTION

*Directions:* Write a well-organized essay that includes an introduction, several paragraphs addressing the task below, and a conclusion.

**Theme:** Justice and Human Rights

Throughout history, the human rights of certain groups of people have been violated. Efforts have been made to address these violations.

**Task:**

- Define the term “human rights”
- Identify *two* examples of human rights violations that have occurred in a specific time and place
- Describe the causes of these human rights violations
- For *one* of the violations identified, discuss *one* specific effort that was made or is being made to deal with the violation

You may use any example from your study of global history. Do *not* use the United States in your answer. Some suggestions you might wish to consider include: Christians in the early Roman Empire, native peoples in Spain’s American colonies, untouchables in India, blacks in South Africa, Jews in Nazi Germany, Muslims in Bosnia, Kurds in Iraq or Turkey, or Tibetans in China.

**You are *not* limited to these suggestions.**

**NOTE:** The rubric (scoring criteria) for this essay appears on the next page.

**Thesis Statement:**

**Define: Human Rights –**

**Violation 1:**

**Time Period:**

**Place:**

**Causes: (USE BULLET POINTS)**

**Violation 2:**

**Time Period:**

**Place:**

**Causes: (USE BULLET POINTS)**

**Pick one violation and describe what was or is being done about it. (USE BULLET POINTS)**



## THEMATIC ESSAY QUESTION

*Directions:* Write a well-organized essay that includes an introduction, several paragraphs addressing the task below, and a conclusion.

**Theme:** Nationalism

Nationalism has been shaping world events for the last 500 years. The desire for self-rule can cause tremendous change both positively and negatively. Individuals have also played huge roles in leading nationalistic movements that effect people and nations.

**Task:**

Choose *two* nationalist leaders from your study of global history, and for *each* one:

- Identify the nation or region where that individual led a nationalist movement
- Describe the historical background leading up to that nationalist movement
- Discuss how the actions of the specific nationalist leader have influenced the region or nation in which the movement took place

You may use any example from your study of global history. Do *not* use the United States in your answer. Some nationalist leaders that you may wish to consider include: Henry VIII, Elizabeth I, Simon Bolivar, Jose de San Martin, Toussaint L'Ouverture, Fidel Castro, Camilo Cavour, Giuseppe Garibaldi, Giuseppe Mazzini, Otto von Bismarck, Sun Yixian, Jiang Jieshi, Mao Zedong, Ho Chi Minh, Mohandas Gandhi, Kwame Nkrumah, Jomo Kenyatta, Nelson Mandela, Kemal Ataturk, Gamal Abdel Nasser, Theodor Herzl, David Ben-Gurion, Ayatollah Khomeini, or Yasir Arafat.

**You are *not* limited to these suggestions.**

**NOTE:** The rubric (scoring criteria) for this essay appears on the next page.

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**Thesis Statement:**

<b>Nationalist Leader 1:</b>	<b>Nationalist Leader 1:</b>
<b>Historical Background:</b>	<b>Historical Background:</b>
<b>Leader's Influence:</b>	<b>Leader's Influence:</b>

## THEMATIC ESSAY QUESTION

*Directions:* Write a well-organized essay that includes an introduction, several paragraphs addressing the task below, and a conclusion.

**Theme:** Change

Throughout global history, there have been major political, social, economic, cultural, and technological revolutions. These revolutions have a variety of complex causes, and often have a great impact on the lives of the people involved.

**Task:**

- Define the term *revolution*
- Select a specific revolution that you have studied and describe *three* of the factors that helped bring about that particular revolution.
- Identify and discuss *one* immediate effect and *one* long-term effect of this revolution on the lives of the people involved.

You may use any example from your study of global history. Some suggestions that you may wish to consider include: Neolithic Revolution, French Revolution, Latin American Revolutions, Industrial Revolution, Scientific Revolution, Russian Revolution, or Chinese Communist Revolution. You are not limited to these choices.

**You are *not* limited to these suggestions.**

**NOTE:** The rubric (scoring criteria) for this essay appears on the next page.

**Thesis Statement:**

**Define: Revolution –**

**Three Causes: (USE BULLETS)**

1.

2.

3.

**Immediate Effect: (USE BULLETS)**

**Long Term Effect:**

## THEMATIC ESSAY QUESTION

*Directions:* Write a well-organized essay that includes an introduction, several paragraphs addressing the task below, and a conclusion.

**Theme:** Science and Technology

Science and technology have played a critical role in altering the course of human history.

**Task:**

- Identify *two* scientific or technological advances that had a major impact on global history
- Explain the relationship between the scientific or technological advance and a specific historic event or period in history
- Analyze how these advances changed the course of history

You may use any scientific or technological advance from your study of global history. Some suggestions you might wish to consider include development of agriculture, irrigation systems, the astrolabe, the printing press, the telescope, nuclear power, steam power, and the microscope.

**You are *not* limited to these suggestions.**

**NOTE:** The rubric (scoring criteria) for this essay appears on the next page.

**Thesis Statement:**

<b>Technological Advancement 1:</b>	<b>Technological Advancement 2:</b>
<b>Relationship with a historical event or period: (USE BULLET POINTS)</b>	<b>Relationship with a historical event or period: (USE BULLET POINTS)</b>
<b>How did it change the course of history?: (USE BULLET POINTS)</b>	<b>How did it change the course of history?: (USE BULLET POINTS)</b>

## **THEMATIC ESSAY GENERIC SCORING RUBRIC**

### **Score of 5:**

- Shows a thorough understanding of the theme
- Addresses all aspects of the task
- Shows an ability to analyze, evaluate, compare, and/or contrast issues and events
- Richly supports essay with relevant facts, examples, and details
- Is a well-developed essay, consistently demonstrating a logical and clear plan of organization
- Introduces the theme or problem by establishing a framework that is beyond a simple restatement of the task and concludes with a summation of the theme or problem

### **Score of 4:**

- Shows a good understanding of the theme
- Addresses all aspects of the task
- Shows an ability to analyze, evaluate, compare, and/or contrast issues and events
- Includes relevant facts, examples, and details, but may not support all aspects of the task evenly
- Is a well-developed essay, demonstrating a logical and clear plan of organization
- Introduces the theme or problem by establishing a framework that is beyond a simple restatement of the task and concludes with a summation of the theme or problem

### **Score of 3:**

- Shows a satisfactory understanding of the theme or problem
- Addresses most aspects of the task or addresses all aspects in a limited way
- Shows an ability to analyze or evaluate issues and events, but not in any depth
- Includes some facts, examples, and details
- Is a satisfactorily developed essay, demonstrating a general plan of organization
- Introduces the theme or problem by repeating the task and concludes by repeating the theme or problem

### **Score of 2:**

- Shows limited understanding of the theme or problem
- Attempts to address the task
- Develops a faulty analysis or evaluation of issues and events
- Includes few facts, examples, and details, and may include information that contains inaccuracies
- Is a poorly organized essay lacking focus
- Fails to introduce or summarize the theme or problem

### **Score of 1:**

- Shows limited understanding of the theme or problem
- Lacks an analysis or evaluation of the issues and events
- Includes little or no accurate or relevant facts, examples, or details
- Attempts to complete the task, but demonstrates a major weakness in organization
- Fails to introduce or summarize the theme or problem

**Score of 0:** Fails to address the theme, is illegible, or is a blank paper