



ESSAY PROJECT: FIVE-PARAGRAPH COMPARE/CONTRAST ESSAY ON THIRD PARTIES

- **DIRECTIONS:** For this essay assignment, you will write a 5-paragraph compare/contrast essay on the following: The Tea Party and the “Occupy Wall Street” movement. The essay (double-spaced, 12-point Times New Roman font, 1-inch margins, at least 3 sources in MLA format) must contain a thesis arguing your position in relation to the following question:
 - “Are social movements, like the Tea Party and the Occupy Walls Street movements important conduits for third party politics? Are such third parties necessary in our American two-party system?”
- Make sure to discuss the political platforms of each, their base of support and whether they have experienced any political success.

9-12 Content Standards

I. What are Civic Life, Politics, and Government?

- A. What is civic life? What is politics? What is government? Why are government and politics necessary? What purposes should government serve?
- B. What are the essential characteristics of limited and unlimited government?
- C. What are the nature and purposes of constitutions?
- D. What are alternative ways of organizing constitutional governments?

II. What are the Foundations of the American Political System?

- A. What is the American idea of constitutional government?
- B. What are the distinctive characteristics of American society?
- C. What is American political culture?
- D. What values and principles are basic to American constitutional democracy?

III. How Does the Government Established by the Constitution Embody the Purposes, Values, and Principles of American Democracy?

- A. How are power and responsibility distributed, shared, and limited in the government established by the United States Constitution?
- B. How is the national government organized and what does it do?
- C. How are state and local governments organized and what do they do?
- D. What is the place of law in the American constitutional system?
- E. How does the American political system provide for choice and opportunities for participation?

5 Paragraph Essay Template

Introductory Paragraph

Introduce the topic by grabbing the audience's attention

Narrow the topic by leading into the thesis

Thesis statement

Body Paragraph 1

Topic Sentence:

Reason/Detail/Fact with Transition:

Explain:

Reason/Detail/Fact with Transition:

Explain:

Reason/Detail/Fact with Transition:

Explain:

Conclusion:

Body Paragraph 2

Topic Sentence:

Reason/Detail/Fact with Transition:

Explain:

Reason/Detail/Fact with Transition:

Explain:

Reason/Detail/Fact with Transition:

Explain:

Conclusion:

Body Paragraph 3

Topic Sentence:

Reason/Detail/Fact with Transition:

Explain:

Reason/Detail/Fact with Transition:

Explain:

Reason/Detail/Fact with Transition:

Explain:

Conclusion:

Concluding Paragraph

Summary Statement:

Clincher Statement:

HISTORY ESSAY RUBRIC

copy and attach to each essay submitted

1) Content and Concept	2) Argument/ Analysis	3) Organization	4) Evidence	5) Source Handling/Citation	6) Writing
5 – Shows insight, understanding, awareness of perspectives and historical contexts; develops reflective interpretation relating specific facts and situations to bigger patterns, ideas and dynamics.	5 – Contains an interesting central point, clearly asserted in the thesis, that is amply developed and persuasively supported with appropriate reasoning and evidence.	5 – Thesis and introduction are clear, concise and address the assignment. Each paragraph has a clear, focused purpose and coherent relation to the whole. Effective conclusion; logical and persuasive overall.	5 - Broad spectrum of appropriate sources visibly used. Accurate evidence directly and persuasively supports the argument. Sources are assessed for bias and placed in larger historical context.	5 – Every point and statement of fact is reliably attributed. Every fact, point, paraphrase and quotation derived from any other source is completely and helpfully documented.	5 – Reliably clear and correct. Reveals a mastery of appropriate vocabulary.
3 - Particular ideas or events are adequately described but poorly understood; OR broad perspective is attempted without adequate foundation in specifics.	3 – Formally adequate argument, but too much summary or assertion, too little supporting analysis or evidence to be fully persuasive.	3 – Structure is evident but inconsistent. A little difficult to follow; may be jumpy, clumpy, choppy, rambling.	3 – Contains relevant evidence but lacks breadth, context or persuasive focus.	3 – Citations are mostly complete, but some are sloppy. There is some confusion about the source of ideas or information.	3 - Writing is substantially technically correct. Occasional minor errors may be present, but prose is generally at college level.
1 – Simplistic; narrow; without context, perspective or interpretive depth.	1 - Lacks a clear point and coherent reasoning.	1 – Lacks logical structure and flow; random or disjointed; makes little sense.	1 - Lacks relevant evidence, reveals incomplete knowledge and contains inaccuracies.	1 – Elements of the paper meet the definition of plagiarism.	1 - Major pattern of errors or many sloppy errors.
Original					
Rewrite					