

National History Day – Thesis Rubric

Thesis Concept	1	2	3	4
Thesis Quality	Thesis is an unfocused grouping of words that do not clearly define the project's purpose	Thesis, while present may be somewhat unclear or logically inconsistent	Thesis is clear and logical	Thesis is exceptionally strong, focused, logical and clearly-defined
Connection to Theme	Thesis is either not connected to the theme or puts forth a mistaken idea of what the theme means	Student attempts to connect the thesis to the theme, but the connection is not clear and logical	The thesis clearly connects to the theme	The thesis clearly demonstrates a nuanced understanding of all parts of the theme
Takes a Position	The thesis offers no analysis, just a report of the facts, which may or may not be accurate	The thesis offers little and/or simplistic analysis that does not extend beyond a surface conception of the facts	The thesis clearly offers the student's analysis, which reflects a clear understanding of the facts and draws logical conclusions	The thesis clearly offers the student's analysis in a way that shows a mastery of the facts and offers a new perspective on the subject matter and its logical conclusions
Historical Context	The thesis is completely disconnected from historical events and concepts that occurred before and after this topic	The thesis attempts to connect the topic to events and concepts either before or after the topic, but does not establish a clear connection of cause/effect	The thesis connects the topic to events and concepts either before or after and discusses cause/effect of these events	The thesis clearly connects the topic to events and concepts both before and after and effectively discusses cause/effect of these events

Totals

Comments