Vimy Ridge Essay

CHC 2DR

**Learning Goal:**

1. Be able to analyze an event and its contributions to the success of World War One
2. Be able to write a well-argued and researched essay.

**Success Criteria:**

1. Thesis clearly stated in introduction and reinforced throughout
2. 3 pieces of supporting evidence provided in each paragraph and correctly referenced
3. Spelling, grammar, and punctuation checked
4. Solid understanding of standard essay structure demonstrated.

Q: To what extent did innovative ideas lead to success for the Canadians at Vimy Ridge?

A: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

These innovations can be divided up into planning, training, technology. List examples of each.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Planning | Training | Technology |
|  |  |  |

**Task**: Turn this information into a well-organized 5-paragraph essay.

**Thesis:** Write a statement that boldly says what you are going to prove in your paper. It should only be one sentence.

ex. The Canadians truly became a nation, after winning at Vimy Ridge.

**Plan of Development:** Outline the three key categories you are going to use to prove your argument. Each of these three points will represent a paragraph in your essay.

**Template:** Use the attached template to help you write your essay. Use it as a guide to assist you in organizing your paragraphs.

Essay Planning Sheet

Canada and World Studies Department

Hopefully the following template will help guide you in building your history essay! A few simple rules to follow:

* Do not use first person narrative (I think…)
* Do not use contractions (can’t, don’t). Use the full words (cannot, do not)
* Use 12 pt. (Times New Roman, Arial, Calibri) font, double spaced and word processed
* quotes/references do NOT have to be italicized
* Spell-check is not always right!! Edit (re-read) your work! Get someone else to do it, too

**Title Page**

There are 5 things on a title page:

* A title🡪 make it interesting… not just “History Essay” or “Vimy Ridge”. Hint about your thesis
* Your name🡪 very important! This can be centred under the title or in the lower right corner
* Teacher’s name 🡪 spell it right! Use the correct honourific (Miss, Ms, or Mrs.)
* Course Code🡪 get it right
* Due date🡪 write the date out in full ie. October 6, 2015.

You should not have any graphic or photo on a formal essay title page.

**Introductory Paragraph**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| WORDS OF INTRODUCTION   * a few sentences talking about your essay topic in a general way * set the stage for the time, place and circumstances * get the reader interested |  |
| THESIS QUESTION   * begin by stating the question you will be answering   \*\*OPTIONAL\*\* |  |
| THESIS STATEMENT   * an answer to the question that is different from your plan of development |  |
| PLAN OF DEVELOPMENT   * a sentence outlining the content of your 3 body paragraphs * should be in order (eg—the first point mentioned in the plan should be the topic of the first paragraph, the second paragraph, and so on) |  |
| CONCLUDING SENTENCE   * wrap up the paragraph, perhaps by rewording your thesis |  |

**Body Paragraphs**

Often, body paragraph #1 should be your second strongest set of arguments, #2 should be your third strongest set of arguments, #3 should be your strongest set of arguments.

However, sometimes it is best to place your arguments in chronological order, especially in a history essay. It would be awkward to write an essay on the lessons learned in the battles of WWI by starting with Passchendaele and ending with The Somme!

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| TOPIC SENTENCE   * a simple sentence stating what your paragraph will be about * similar to your essay’s thesis, keep it simple |  |
| ELABORATION   * a sentence expanding in some way on your topic sentence * this sentence will be used as a mini plan of development for the paragraph |  |
| EXAMPLE #1   * begin by supplying evidence of the issue in one or two sentences |  |
| ANAYLSIS #1   * this group of sentences explains how the first reference proves the thesis * this group of sentences *analyzes* the relevance of the first reference |  |
| EXAMPLE #2   * begin by supplying evidence of the issue in one or two sentences |  |
| ANAYLSIS #2   * this group of sentences explains how the first reference proves the thesis * this group of sentences *analyzes* the relevance of the first reference |  |
| EXAMPLE #3   * begin by supplying evidence of the issue in one or two sentences |  |
| ANAYLSIS #3   * this group of sentences explains how the first reference proves the thesis * this group of sentences *analyzes* the relevance of the first reference |  |
| CONCLUDING SENTENCE   * this sentence wraps up the paragraph * often a simple re-wording of the topic sentence |  |

**Concluding Paragraph**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| THESIS RESTATED   * a rewrite of your thesis statement from your introductory paragraph |  |
| EXAMPLES SUMMARIZED   * a rewrite of your plan of development from your introductory paragraph * a summary of the evidence put forward in two or three sentences * *do not add any new information* |  |
| WORDS OF CONCLUSION   * a few sentences that tie up your thesis nicely * leave the reader with something to think about (what this topic means for the future) |  |

**Bibliography/Works Cited/References**

This always appears at the end of your research essay. It includes all sources that you have looked at and used in researching your essay. There are several styles that can be used. You must always use the style that your teacher asks for.