

LEQ PROCESS

STEP 1 – UNDERSTANDING THE QUESTION

- Read the question
- What is it asking you to do?
- Identify time frame, region, etc.
- Identify Historical Thinking Skill
 - Causation, CCOT, Comparison

STEP 2 – BRAINSTORM INFORMATION

- Brainstorm anything that comes to mind related to the topic and write them down
 - Person, idea, event, place, document, conflict, vocabulary term
- Do any of these items answer the question in any way?
- Identify the items that fit the Historical Thinking Skill that is required

STEP 3 – CONVERT BRAINSTORMING INFO INTO TOPICS

- Using the information that fits the HTS, create a sentence using that information that would answer the question
 - This will serve as the Topic Sentences for the Body Paragraphs
 - Evidence A
 - Evidence B

STEP 4 – CREATE THE THESIS

- Combine your topic sentences into a comprehensive thesis
- 1-2 sentences that clearly answers the question
- Watch for phrases like “To what extent”
 - Means “How much”
 - Also could imply “ranking” which evidence is more important/stronger
- Take a defensible position
 - Use qualifiers to set up your argument (Mostly, Significantly, Primarily, etc.)
- Possibly include a counterpoint (Despite, although, etc.)

STEP 5 – CONTEXTUALIZATION

- Set the stage
- Tell a background story that leads up to the event/topic of your thesis
- 3-4 sentences
- Mention specific people, places, events, etc.

STEP 6 – BODY PARAGRAPHS

- Use the TOPIC SENTENCES developed in your pre-writing
- Topic Sentence can be the same as your [evidence A] and [evidence B]
- State similarity/difference, cause/effect, or change/continuity
 - What was it specifically
 - Evidence A and Evidence B will have at least **TWO** supporting details per paragraph
 - Use historical figures, places, events, facts, etc. (BE SPECIFIC)
- NAME IT
- DEFINE IT
- EXPLAIN IT
- Use Causation Terms to explain / analyze
 - “Due to,” “Because of,” “The reason for,” etc.
- Repeat for Body Paragraph 2

STEP 7 – CONCLUSION

- Optional
- This is your second chance to get your Thesis point
- Restate your thesis in different terminology
 - DON'T REWRITE THE SAME THING!!!
 - If you missed it once, you'll miss it again this way
- Reverse engineer your intro paragraph
- You also get a second chance at Contextualization here