**Ms. Rusk’s HISTORY 12 TEST STRATEGIES**

**MULTIPLE CHOICE: (55% of the Exam)**

* There are usually one or two close answers, but the BEST answer should be chosen.
* Look for absolutes. These are usually wrong.
* Read the whole question before bubbling.
* Put a mark beside the response that hit you right away. If one or more seems correct mark this one as well. Now you have only two choices. Re-read the question one more time and choose the BEST choice.
* If you don’t know which is the best choice choose the longest response.
* Circle each question you had to guess on and come back to them after you have done the rest of the exam.
* Don’t leave questions out.
* Study terminology list from FALK, as these are important M/C questions.
* You may come across ‘skills’ questions in your Multiple Choice. Most of these questions are based on Fact and Opinion; reliable and unreliable; primary and secondary; corroborate and contradict; and bias.

Secondary Sources:

* Accounts which were created by someone after the events, using primary or secondary sources as their basis.
* Ask yourself is the source reputable, biased, well researched, in their field of expertise, in accord with facts, corroborated by other documents?

Primary Sources:

* Created at the time of the events in question, by someone who was more or less involved in those events.
* Ask yourself is the person competent, biased, objective, refutable, is it corroborated by other documents?

**WRITTEN RESPONSE AND EVIDENCE QUESTION:**

**(18% of the Exam)**

Students will be required to respond to **one evidence question** and **one written-response question** drawn from the following two sections (note: the evidence question and the written-response question will **not** be drawn from the same section):

**Section one**: Conflict and Challenge, Promise and Collapse, Turmoil and Tragedy

**Section two**: Transformation and Tension, Progress and Uncertainty

Students will have **two** options from which to choose their **written-response** question.

The **evidence question** will consist of **one** question based on a set of historical documents in

which students will be required to provide a written answer referencing the documents as well as

other historical knowledge.

* Common Mistakes students make:

1. They do not reference the documents.

2. They don’t show both sides of the argument. (TWE)

3. They do not answer in full sentences—the markers actually take off marks if

you do not write in full sentences.

* For full marks you need **FIVE well-explained** points plus a definition of the main idea in the question.
* Write small and write neatly. Some markers are instructed no to mark information not on the appropriate page.
* Never leave a question unanswered or blank. Write something even when the knowledge is limited. If it smells right the marker will give some marks. (NR and a 0)
* When answering these questions you must define the concept in the question in the first sentence of the response. You must provide evidence to support your answer.

**ESSAY QUESTION: (27% of the Exam)**

* Essay question consists of **TWO CHOICES**. Topics are based on the **FIVE THEMES.**
* Marks are given for content and organization.
* Essay questions are ‘To what extent’ or ‘evaluate’.
* You must have a **THESIS** and use examples throughout **1917 to 1991.** Place it in the introductory paragraph.
* Restating the questions as a problem ‘may’ be good enough for a thesis.
* The body of the essay will consist of three to five paragraphs based on the points stated in the introduction. Each point of evidence that is to explain the thesis should be developed into a paragraph. Each paragraph should be a debate rather than a narrative.
* The concluding paragraph should sum up the findings. You should restate the thesis indicating some conclusion or answer to the problem that the thesis posed. The last sentence should look or state how this problem or event affected the future.
* **AVOID** the **FIRST PERSON** –I will tell you. I will conclude. I will now sum up.
* Use transition words that build arguments, compare, contrast, and point our main ideas that your essay wants to emphasize. (specifically, consequently, however)
* If you are lost as to what to write use the **SPERM** method. The causes of most events are SOCIAL, POLITICAL, ECONOMIC, RELIGIOUS, and MILITARY. OR the **MAIN** method may work too. MILITARISM, ALLIANCES, IMPERIALISM, AND NATIONALISM.

**RECALL THE FIVE THEMES:**

1. **Geopolitical Events** --- Nationalism and Imperialism, The Nature of Conflict and Conflict

Resolution, and Internationalism.

* International cooperation has had a steadily increasing impact on the events of the 20th Century. Evaluate this statement using evidence from throughout 1917 to 1991.
* To what extent have attempts to resolve conflicts tended to result in more rather than less conflict throughout 1917 to 1945

2. **Social Change** --- Human Rights and Causes of Social Change

* Political and social protest movements can only achieve their goals in democratic states. Evaluate this statement using evidence from throughout 1917 to 1991.
* To what extent have major events been influenced by the masses throughout 1917 to 1991.

3. **Economic Developments** --- Economic Cooperation/Competition, Globalization

* Economic problems have been a major cause of political change within countries. Evaluation this statement using evidence from throughout 1917 to 1991.
* To what extent have economic conditions contributed the rise of dictatorships throughout 1917 to 1991.

4. **Ideologies**  --- Democracy, Fascism, Communism, and Totalitarianism

* Nationalism ultimately leads to war. Evaluate this statement using evidence from throughout 1917 to 1991.

5. **The Role of the Individual**

* To what extent have communist leaders created world conflicts throughout 1917 to 1991.
* Some essay questions will combine two themes. i.e. social and economic.
* Don’t feel that you need to know specific dates, but if you do know them use them.
* Use indentations. Some markers think it is not a paragraph if it does not have an indentation.
* When you decide on which essay question you will need to brainstorm an Organizational Chart. You will need to decide which one will work for the question. Here is a standard one:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1917 to 1945 | 1945 to 1991 |
|  |  |