

Scoring Rubric for Question 1: Synthesis Essay

THESIS	0 POINTS		1 POINT		
	For any of the following: <input type="checkbox"/> No defensible thesis <input type="checkbox"/> Simple restatement of prompt only <input type="checkbox"/> Summary of topic with no clear claim <input type="checkbox"/> States an apparent fact rather than a defensible claim. <input type="checkbox"/> Off-topic		<input type="checkbox"/> Defensible thesis <input type="checkbox"/> Clear position		
EVIDENCE & COMMENTARY	0 POINTS	1 POINT	2 POINTS	3 POINTS	4 POINTS
	<input type="checkbox"/> Simple restatement of thesis (if existing). OR <input type="checkbox"/> Fewer than 2 sources referenced OR <input type="checkbox"/> Opinion-based with no text evidence	EVIDENCE: <input type="checkbox"/> 2 sources used only <input type="checkbox"/> Relevant evidence AND COMMENTARY: <input type="checkbox"/> Summary of evidence with no explanation of connection to claim	EVIDENCE: <input type="checkbox"/> Sufficient evidence (3+ sources) <input type="checkbox"/> Relevant evidence AND COMMENTARY: <input type="checkbox"/> Simplistic or inaccurate connection <input type="checkbox"/> Limited supporting claims <input type="checkbox"/> Lacks a line of reasoning <input type="checkbox"/> Faulty line of reasoning	EVIDENCE: <input type="checkbox"/> Sufficient evidence (3+ sources) <input type="checkbox"/> Relevant evidence that supports the claims in the line of reasoning. AND COMMENTARY: <input type="checkbox"/> Clear connection between some of the evidence and the thesis. <input type="checkbox"/> Multiple claims included. <input type="checkbox"/> Slight lapses in support of key claims.	EVIDENCE: <input type="checkbox"/> Sufficient evidence (3+ sources) <input type="checkbox"/> Relevant evidence that supports all the claims in the line of reasoning. AND COMMENTARY: <input type="checkbox"/> Well-organized line of reasoning. <input type="checkbox"/> Consistent use of evidence and support of multiple key claims.
	0 POINTS		1 POINT		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Sweeping generalizations of context <input type="checkbox"/> Complicated/complex sentences, or language is ineffective		<input type="checkbox"/> Nuanced thesis that is supported throughout the argument <input type="checkbox"/> Acknowledgement of limitations and implications of an argument (by the student or included in the sources) that examines the broader context <input type="checkbox"/> Successful rhetorical choices by the student <input type="checkbox"/> Mature and consistent writing style		
	SOPHISTICATION	0 POINTS		1 POINT	
<input type="checkbox"/> Sweeping generalizations of context <input type="checkbox"/> Complicated/complex sentences, or language is ineffective		<input type="checkbox"/> Nuanced thesis that is supported throughout the argument <input type="checkbox"/> Acknowledgement of limitations and implications of an argument (by the student or included in the sources) that examines the broader context <input type="checkbox"/> Successful rhetorical choices by the student <input type="checkbox"/> Mature and consistent writing style			

TOTAL POINTS EARNED: / 6