

Research a Party

This summary should:

- Focus on one of the top 6 U.S. political parties' platforms
- Describe that party's stances on 4 major issues: Education, gun control, healthcare, and same-sex marriage
- Be at least 200 words
- Be in your own words and in complete sentences

Create Your Own Party

This paper should:

- Describe the party you have created
 - Name your party
 - State your party's platform on the 4 major issues above with a clear explanation of their views
- Be between 500-700 words
- Be in your own words and in complete sentences

| Social Studies Essay Rubric | Excellent (4) | Good (3) | Average (2) | Poor (1) |
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| Organization (Demonstrates organization: Shows strong introduction, addresses topic, main idea, and contains main body and conclusion of the paper) Worth: 20% | a. Contains solid introduction. b. Well developed main body paragraphs. c. Conclusion with a perspective. d. Clear thesis and evidence if applicable. | a. Contains introduction. b. Contains main body paragraphs. c. Contains conclusion. d. Contains thesis and evidence if applicable. | a. Weak introduction b. Weak main body paragraphs. c. Weak conclusion. d. Unclear thesis and inconsistent evidence. | a. Very poor or no introduction. b. Very poor or no main body paragraphs. c. Very poor or no conclusion. d. Very poor or no thesis and/or evidence. |
| Development of Ideas (Knowledge of evidence from the social science: facts, supporting details; and concepts/ideas) Worth: 30% | a. Logical progression of ideas. b. Transitions easy to follow, clear and effective. c. Shows understanding of major ideas. | a. Some inconsistencies in progression of ideas, unity or coherence. b. Transitions clear, evident and understandable. c. Demonstrates detailed understanding of ideas. | a. Major inconsistencies in the development of ideas, unity, and/or coherence. b. Transitions missing or very weak. c. Very poor understanding of ideas. | a. No progression of ideas, unity, or coherence. b. Transitions missing or weak. c. Lack of understanding of ideas. |

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| <p>Details and Content (Use of source material and citation) Worth: 30%</p> | <p>a. Discussion reveals both depth and breadth in the mastery of content, level of analysis, and/or solutions to problems. b. Contains all expected content c. Appropriate citations and bibliography as required.</p> | <p>a. Discussion reveals mastery of content, coherent analysis, and/or solutions to problems. b. Contains most expected content. c. Minor errors in citations and/or bibliography.</p> | <p>a. Discussion reveals some mastery of content, coherent analysis, and/or solutions to problems. b. Contains some expected content. c. Errors in citations and bibliography.</p> | <p>a. Discussion reveals major errors in content, nearly incoherent analysis, and/or little or no solutions to problems. b. Contains almost no expected content. c. Citations and/or bibliography missing.</p> |
| <p>Grammar/Mechanics (Spelling, Punctuation, etc) Worth: 10%</p> | <p>a. Fluent and effective writing style. b. Few, if any errors.</p> | <p>a. Some fluency, despite some minor errors. b. Writing style clear and understandable.</p> | <p>a. Lack of fluency b. Major error in writing makes it difficult to understand.</p> | <p>a. No fluency. b. Numerous errors in writing make it difficult, if not, not able to understand.</p> |
| <p>Word Count Worth: 10%</p> | <p>No more than 15 words short of the word count</p> | <p>Between 16-50 words short of word count</p> | <p>More than 50 words short of the word count</p> | |