The rubric provides a consistent framework for evaluating student work throughout the semester, including essays, presentations, document analyses, and research projects. It establishes clear expectations for historical thinking, analysis, and evidence-based argumentation, guiding students in their development of critical inquiry, interpretation of sources, and communication of historical understanding. Each submission will be assessed based on historical accuracy, clarity of argument, use of primary and secondary sources, and coherence of organization. Key areas of focus include thesis development, contextual analysis, evidence integration, and interpretation of significance. Proper citation of sources, when required, and the overall quality and effort demonstrated will also be considered. This rubric ensures fair, transparent assessment while promoting student growth in historical reasoning, analytical writing, and informed civic awareness.

ADD World and US History First Semester for Unit 1 Rubric				
Criteria	Excellent	Good	Needs Improvement	Below expectation
Organization and Development (20 pts)	**20 pts** Each paragraph thoroughly analyzes one item, clearly connecting it to culture, technology, or values with detailed reasoning. Well-developed introduction and conclusion.	**15 pts** Paragraphs analyze items with some connection to culture and civilization; some details may be missing. slightly developed introduction and conclusion.	**10 pts** Paragraphs attempt analysis, but connections to culture or civilization are vague or incomplete.	**5 pts** Analysis is minimal or unrelated; paragraphs do not explain items' significance. No introduction and conclusion.
Grammar, Mechanics, and Punctuation (15 pts)	**15 pts** Nearly error-free writing demonstrating excellent command of grammar, spelling, and punctuation.	**10 pts** Minor errors are present but do not distract from understanding.	**5 pts** Noticeable errors occasionally interfere with clarity or readability.	**2 pts** Frequent errors significantly interfere with understanding.
Scientific Content Knowledge (40 pts)	**40 pts** Demonstrates deep understanding of how archaeologists interpret objects to learn about past civilizations; insightful cultural, technological, and societal connections.	**30 pts** Shows solid understanding of archaeological analysis and culture with generally accurate explanations	**25 pts** Displays partial understanding of archaeological concepts; some explanations are unclear or incomplete.	**10 pts** Lacks understanding of archaeological methods or cultural significance; many inaccuracies.
Quality (15 pts)	**15 pts** Creative narrative with clear, well-labeled images; descriptions enhance understanding of items.	**10 pts** The narrative shows some creativity; images are included with labels and basic descriptions.	**5 pts** Limited creativity; images may be missing, or captions may be unclear or incomplete.	**2 pts** No creativity evident; images missing or unrelated; no captions provided.
Works Cited (10 pts)	**10 pts** All sources are cited correctly with proper MLA formatting; the works cited page is complete and accurate.	**5 pts** Sources cited with minor formatting errors; works cited page mostly complete.	**3 pts** Some sources were cited, but some sources were incomplete or inconsistent; the works cited page was incomplete.	**0 pts** No citations or works cited page, or the citation format is incorrect throughout.

Plagiarism Policy Reminder

American High School upholds the highest standards of academic integrity and expects all students to demonstrate honesty and responsibility in their academic work. Academic integrity is a fundamental value of our school community, requiring students to complete their own work and appropriately acknowledge the ideas and words of others.

This expectation also includes the responsible use of technology. The excessive or inappropriate use of artificial intelligence (AI) tools to complete assignments, tests, or projects in place of a student's own effort is considered a violation of the school's academic integrity policy.

Any instance of plagiarism, defined as presenting another person's work, ideas, or expressions as one's own, is a serious violation of school policy. Students found in violation of the plagiarism policy will face disciplinary consequences.

Students are encouraged to review the full policy to ensure a clear understanding of expectations and consequences.

Click [here](#) to read the updated Plagiarism and Academic Integrity Policy.