Unit 11: Contemporary United States Era (1968-present) Rubric

This rubric provides a clear and consistent framework for evaluating Unit 11 student projects, ensuring fair and transparent grading. It sets expectations for research, critical thinking, and persuasive writing while exploring major themes in the Contemporary United States Era (1968–present). Projects will be assessed on historical accuracy, depth of analysis, and the ability to use evidence to support ideas. Students will choose between two topics: **Future Prediction:** Analyze the potential global economic, political, and social effects if the United States withdrew into complete isolationism.

Taking a Stance: Present a clear argument for or against globalization, explaining what it is and supporting your position with strong evidence. All essays must be at least 600 words, follow MLA format, use the five-paragraph structure, and include at least two credible sources beyond the textbook. A complete Works Cited page is required. Strong organization, clarity, and a persuasive voice are essential.

| ADD World and US History Second Semester Unit 11 Rubric | | | | | | | |
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| Criteria | Excellent | Good | Needs Improvement | | | | |
| Effort, Quality & Creativity (15 pts) | 15 pts The essay is very well organized with logical flow; ideas are fully developed with clear transitions. | 10 pts Mostly organized; minor issues with flow or transitions | 5 pts You did the basics, but it may be missing some key details or polish. There's room for improvement in clarity or depth. | 1pts The work is incomplete, off-topic, or shows little effort. It does not meet the assignment's goals. | | | |
| Scientific/Historical Content Knowledge (40 pts) | 40 pts Demonstrates a thorough understanding of globalization or isolationism concepts with detailed, accurate explanations and strong evidence from at least 2 credible sources beyond the textbook. | 30 pts Shows good understanding of the topic with mostly accurate explanations and evidence, though some details may be missing or unclear. | 20 pts Demonstrates partial understanding; explanations are vague or contain some inaccuracies; limited or weak evidence is provided. | 10 pts Lacks understanding of the topic; explanations are inaccurate or incomplete; minimal or no evidence is provided. | | | |
| Grammar, Mechanics & Punctuation (15 pts) | 15 pts Writing is nearly error-free; demonstrates a strong command of grammar, punctuation, and spelling. | 10 pts Minor errors are present but do not interfere with readability. | 5 pts Multiple errors occasionally affect clarity or readability. | 6 pts Frequent and distracting errors interfere significantly with readability. | | | |
| Organization & Development (20 pts) | 20 pts The essay follows MLA format perfectly with a clear introduction, 3 body paragraphs, and a conclusion; ideas flow logically with strong transitions. | 15 pts Mostly follows MLA format; clear structure with minor issues in flow or paragraph development. | 10 Pts Some structures are present, but paragraphs may be underdeveloped or disorganized; MLA formatting is inconsistently applied. | 5 pts Lacks clear organization; paragraphs are poorly developed; MLA format not followed | | | |

| Works Cited in MLA Format (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 Works Cited page incomplete or inconsistently formatted; some citation issues present; no clear plagiarism detected. | O pts Works Cited page missing or incorrect; sources not cited or plagiarism detected. | |
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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.