

This rubric provides a clear and consistent framework for evaluating student work for Unit 4, ensuring fair and transparent assessment. It establishes expectations for historical understanding, personal reflection, and the ability to draw meaningful connections between individual experiences and broader historical movements. Students are expected to demonstrate depth of thought, originality, and accuracy while effectively communicating their ideas through either a written essay or video presentation. Each project will be assessed on historical understanding, shown through accurate connections to events and ideas from the Renaissance, Reformation, Enlightenment, or Exploration; personal reflection, demonstrated by a thoughtful, detailed account of a real-life event where the student challenged tradition or authority; and analytical comparison, which evaluates the student's ability to clearly explain how their own experience relates to a significant historical change studied in this unit. The rubric will also assess quality of communication, including organization, clarity, and flow of ideas in the essay or video, as well as the student's ability to present their ideas confidently and coherently. In addition, use of evidence and sources will be considered, including proper historical references, accurate details, and MLA-formatted citations for any sources used. Proper credit must be given for any outside materials, and plagiarism will not be tolerated. This rubric is designed to encourage critical thinking, strengthen historical reasoning skills, and promote the ability to connect past and present through clear, engaging storytelling.

<b>ADD World and US History First Semester for Unit 4 Rubric</b>				
<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Excellent</b>	<b>Good</b>	<b>Needs Improvement</b>	<b>Below expectation</b>
<b>(40 pts) Scientific Content Knowledge</b>	<b>40 pts</b> Thoroughly describes a personal experience challenging old ways or authority. Insightfully compares a historical event (Renaissance, Reformation, Enlightenment, or Exploration) with clear, detailed connections.	<b>30 pts</b> Clearly describes a personal experience and makes a relevant comparison to a historical event with some detail.	<b>20 pts</b> Describes a personal experience or historical event but with limited detail or weak connections.	<b>5 pts</b> Minimal or unclear description of personal experience and weak or missing connection to historical events.
<b>Grammar, Mechanics, and Punctuation (15 pts)</b>	<b>15 pts</b> Error-free; strong command of grammar, mechanics, and punctuation enhances clarity and understanding.	<b>10 pts</b> Minor errors are present but do not distract from understanding or flow.	<b>5 pts</b> Errors occasionally interfere with clarity or distract the reader.	<b>2 pts</b> Frequent and distracting errors significantly interfere with readability and understanding.
<b>Organization and Development (20 pts)</b>	<b>20 pts</b> The essay/video is logically structured with a clear introduction, body, and conclusion; ideas are fully developed with smooth transitions.	<b>10 pts</b> Mostly organized and developed, with minor lapses in flow or transitions.	<b>5 pts</b> Some organizations are present, but ideas are underdeveloped or loosely connected.	<b>1pts</b> Lacks clear structure; ideas are poorly developed or difficult to follow.
<b>Quality (15 pts)</b>	<b>15 pts</b> Work demonstrates high effort, attention to detail, and thoughtful reflection.	<b>10 pts</b> Work meets expectations with appropriate effort and detail.	<b>5 pts</b> Work is complete but lacks detail or refinement.	<b>2 pts</b> Work is incomplete, off-task, or shows minimal effort.

<b>Works Cited (10 pts)</b>	<b>10 pts</b> All sources are cited correctly with proper MLA formatting; the works cited page is complete and accurate.	<b>5 pts</b> Sources cited with minor formatting errors; works cited page mostly complete.	<b>3 pts</b> Some sources were cited, but the formatting was incomplete or inconsistent; the works cited page was incomplete.	<b>0 pts</b> No citations or works cited page, or the citation format is incorrect throughout.
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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.**