

Name:

Period:

Comparative Analysis Essay - Compare AND Contrast

Compare demographic and environmental effects of the Columbian Exchange on the Americas with the Columbian Exchange's demographic and environmental effects on ONE of the following regions between 1492 and 1750.

Africa Asia or Europe

Write an essay that:

- Has a relevant thesis and supports that thesis with appropriate historical evidence.
- Addresses all parts of the question.
- Makes direct, relevant comparisons.
- Analyzes relevant reasons for similarities and differences.

Grading Matrix

BASIC CORE Competence		EXPANDED CORE Excellence	
	Points		Points
1. Has acceptable thesis. (Addresses comparison of the issues or themes specified.)	1	Expands beyond basic core of 1–7 points. The basic core score of 7 must be achieved before a student can earn expanded core points. Examples: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Has a clear, analytical, and comprehensive thesis. • Addresses all parts of the question thoroughly (as relevant): comparisons, chronology, causation, connections, themes, interactions, content. • Provides ample historical evidence to substantiate thesis. • Relates comparisons to larger global context. • Makes several direct comparisons consistently between or among societies. • Consistently analyzes the causes and effects of relevant similarities and differences. 	0–2
2. Addresses all parts of the question, though not necessarily evenly or thoroughly. (Addresses most parts of the question: for example, deals with differences but not similarities.)	2 (1)		
3. Substantiates thesis with appropriate historical evidence. (Partially substantiates thesis with appropriate historical evidence.)	2 (1)		
4. Makes at least one relevant, direct comparison between/ among societies.	1		
5. Analyzes at least one reason for a similarity or difference identified in a direct comparison.	1		
Subtotal	7	Subtotal	2
TOTAL 9			

The **thesis paragraph** includes both a valid **similarity** and a valid **difference** in the four **demographic AND environmental effects** on the Americas and one other region during the time period.

- first paragraph, with time period or dates included **BAAQ-date** – Briefly, Accurately, Answer the Question (and include the dates, period of time).
- makes direct, relevant, valid comparisons
- both differences and similarities included (ie., one difference and two similarities)
- does **NOT** just restate the question

Thesis supported with **eight (8)** or more (total) pieces of specific historical evidence

- Items that diffused/moved from continent to continent, impacts, patterns, processes, technology, interactions, data, etc.
- At least two of pieces of evidence related to demographic or environmental effects of the Columbian Exchange must relate to the non-American region.

Clear, logical, historically accurate explanation and analysis of **all four** demographic or environmental effects

- explains why the effects were similar or different

Writing

sentence and paragraph structure
spelling, capitalization, and punctuation
clear, lean writing style (avoids wordiness)
neat enough to read easily