

9 Point Rubric for APUSH Essays

Score 9

- Strong and Complex Thesis (Although...)
- Proper Balance (give a little, take a lot)
- Extensive Coverage (of Historical Ideas or Events)
- Strong Support/Evidence (Concrete Details)
- Proper Analysis (Commentary)
- Minor Errors

Score 8

- Strong and Complex Thesis (Although...)
- Not as Balanced (give a little, take a lot)
- Extensive Coverage (of Historical Ideas or Events)
- Strong Support/Evidence (Concrete Details)
- Proper Analysis (Commentary)
- Minor Errors

Score 7

- Strong and Complex Thesis (Although...)
- Not as Balanced (give a little, take a lot)
- Uneven Coverage (of Historical Ideas or Events)
- Has Support/Evidence (Concrete Details)
- Proper Analysis (Commentary)
- Minor Errors

Score 6

- Thesis Addresses the Prompt (Although...)
- Not as Balanced (give a little, take a lot)
- Uneven Coverage (of Historical Ideas or Events)
- Has Support/Evidence (Concrete Details)
- More Descriptive than Analytical (Commentary)
- Minor Errors

Score 5

- Thesis Addresses the Prompt with Mistakes (Although...)
- Unbalanced (give a little, take a lot)
- Uneven Coverage (of Historical Ideas or Events)
- Has Support/Evidence (Concrete Details)
- More Descriptive than Analytical (Commentary)
- Factual Errors

Score 4

- Thesis does not Address the Entire Prompt (Although...)
- Unbalanced (give a little, take a lot)
- Uneven Coverage (of Historical Ideas or Events)
- Little Support/Evidence (Concrete Details)
- More Descriptive than Analytical (Commentary)
- Many Errors

Score 3

- Thesis does not Address the Entire Prompt or has Implausible Elements
- Unbalanced (give a little, take a lot)
- Little Coverage (of Historical Ideas or Events)
- Little Support/Evidence (Concrete Details)
- Little Analysis (Commentary)
- Many Errors

Score 2

- No Thesis or thesis is Implausible
- No Organization
- Extensive Errors

Score 1

- Off Topic