

Imperialism Essay

Instructions:

You are writing a position paper based on the following question: Was the United States justified in acquiring new territories during the Imperialist Era? You will base your answer on ONE of the following territories: Alaska, Cuba, Puerto Rico, the Philippines, Hawaii and Panama. Remember, you are trying to state your opinion and explain why you are right. Be sure to clearly state your thesis.

Rules:

1. 600 word minimum. Word count must be in the heading (10 pts)
2. Must have a works cited/ bibliography page (10 pts)
 - a. 3 Book (one encyclopedia)
 - b. 1 Database
 - c. 1 internet
 - i. One of the above needs to include a primary source
 - ii. Look up .gov and .edu sites for good sources
3. Support your opinion with facts and ideas. Be sure to properly cite your sources.
4. Rubric for paper:

Thesis	15/	600 word minimum	10/
4 concrete details	40/	Works cited page	10/
3 topic sentences	15/		
Commentary	10/		
Total of points	80/	Total of points	20/

Multi – Paragraph Essay

- Keep in mind: The thesis statement for a multi-paragraph essay is generally more complicated than for a mini – essay or a body paragraph. It will have either a compound subject or predicate or be a compound or complex sentence. It will need support from the two body paragraphs.
- A multi-paragraph essay is constructed according to the following pattern:
 - Paragraph 1: Introduction: should consist of at least 40 words and 4 sentences, and move in a "funnel" progression from general to specific ideas. The first sentence arouses the reader's attention and interest, while the fourth and final sentence is usually the thesis. The paragraph is entirely commentary.
 - Paragraphs 2, 3, and 4: Body or Support paragraphs, which should follow the 8 or 11 sentence, format and include transitions connecting the main ideas. The topic sentences should refer directly to the thesis. These paragraphs should have a minimum of 100 – 120 words.
 - Paragraph 5: Conclusion: should consist of at least 40 words and 3 or 4 sentences. The conclusion should rephrase the thesis and close the argument. The paragraph is entirely commentary.

Paragraph structure: (example)

Sentence 1 – Thesis (Topic) Sentence

Sentence 2 – Concrete detail (example to prove/support #1)

Sentence 3 – Commentary (explains why/how the detail proves or clarifies the thesis)

Sentence 4 – Commentary (further explains or analyzes CD)

Sentence 5 – Concrete detail (gives a second example to prove/support #1)

Sentence 6 – Commentary (explains why/how #5 relates to #1)

Sentence 7 – Commentary (further explains or analyzes CD)

Sentence 8 – Concrete detail (example to prove/support #1)

Sentence 9 – Commentary (explains why/how #8 relates to #1)

Sentence 10 – Commentary (further explains or analyzes CD)