

History 12 – Essay #2 Topics

Value: 30 marks (6 composition 3 x 6 content, 3 for citations and 3 for bibliography).

Due: Wednesday, April 15 – a day after we return from the Easter Weekend.

Select one topic from the choices below and write a well-organized and well-documented essay response.

1. Was the Paris Peace Conference a failure or a success?

A good answer will:

- ◆ State a clear thesis and support it with evidence.
- ◆ Note the goals of the major participants and of others who were affected by the treaty but who were not present at the conference.
- ◆ Mention major personalities who participated and identify their successes and failures in furthering the interests of the countries that they represented.
- ◆ Note the outcomes of the treaties signed as a result of the conference.
- ◆ Assess the successes and failures of the treaties in securing European peace.

2. Why did Fascism emerge as a powerful new ideology in Italy and Germany during the 1920's and 1930's?

A good answer will:

- ◆ State a clear thesis and support it with evidence.
- ◆ Identify the key goals of both Italian Fascism and German Nazism.
- ◆ Identify the factors leading to popular support of Fascist goals.
- ◆ Identify the role of charismatic fascist leaders in both Italy and Germany.

3. Account for the success of Lenin and his Bolshevik followers in seizing control of Russia and establishing the world's first national "communist" regime.

A good answer will:

- ◆ State a clear thesis and support it with evidence.
- ◆ Identify significant factors leading to Bolshevik success.
- ◆ Indicate the role of Vladimir Illyich Lenin in the drive for and consolidation of power.
- ◆ Show an awareness of the forces opposing the Bolsheviks and account for their inability to overcome Red forces.