

*Writing Criteria for the  
"Why I want to Go on the Historic Study Tour" Essay*

**Introductory Paragraph:**

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1) Begins with a hook—one of the following:
  - \_\_\_\_\_ question
  - \_\_\_\_\_ anecdote (very brief story)
  - \_\_\_\_\_ quote
  - \_\_\_\_\_ poem
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Bible verse
  - \_\_\_\_\_ other
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2) Hook is explained and connected to the thesis statement
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3) Thesis statement states the topic and the three main points of the body paragraph in the order in which they are discussed. **It is the last sentence of the introduction.**

**Body Paragraphs:**

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1) There are 3 body paragraphs
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2) Each body paragraph is all about one of the main points stated in the thesis statement
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3) Each main point has at least 3 sub points and each sub point has at least 2 details
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4) Research has been done to expand points and provide detail (use history & English notes)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5) Own personal thoughts have been added to provide style, personality, and originality
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6) Transition words and sentence variety has been used with the body paragraphs
  - Different ways to start sentences: prepositional phrase, infinitive phrase (*To + a verb* to start the sentence), two adjectives, an interjection, and/or a gerund. (Verb ending in *'ing'* to start the sentence)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 7) Paragraph begins with a topic sentence and end with a concluding sentence.

**Conclusion Paragraph:**

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1) Begins with a summary restated in different words of the topic and main points.  
(no new facts/reasons)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2) Ends with a closing thought—one of the following:
  - \_\_\_\_\_ question
  - \_\_\_\_\_ anecdote (very brief story)
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Bible verse
  - \_\_\_\_\_ quote
  - \_\_\_\_\_ poem
  - \_\_\_\_\_ other
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3) Make sure that the closing thoughts connects with the topic

**Overall:**

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1) Paragraph style—correct margins, indentation, double spaced (no extra space in between paragraphs)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2) Sentences begin with capitals and are complete (no run-ons or fragments)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3) Punctuation and capitalization have been used correctly. **No contractions.**
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4) All words are correctly spelled
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5) Assignment typed (Times New Roman font, Size 12)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6) NTSBWTSWPP (no two sentences begin with the same word per paragraph)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 7) No dead words have been used. Review the list
- \_\_\_\_\_ 8) Cover page with a picture no bigger than half the page, incl. title, name, date, and period (Any font/size)

Signature by parent/guardian stating they did not help in writing this essay and all the ideas and research was done by the student.

I have proof read my child's essay. Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**\*\*\*Turn this page in BLANK with final draft including a parent/adult signature**