

Rubric for *Reacting to the Past* Writing

	Outstanding (5 points)	Exceeds Expectations (4 points)	Acceptable (3 points)	Poor (2 points)	Dreadful (1 point)
Effort	Your writing was submitted before the deadline and perfectly matched the requested format.	Your writing was submitted before the deadline but did not quite match the requested format.	Your writing was submitted within 24 hours of the deadline or had multiple errors with the format.	Your writing was over 24 hours late.	Your writing was not submitted until the instructor asked for it.
Claim	You make a powerful claim that is both obvious to the reader and well-situated in the opening of the piece.	You make a clear and concise claim in the first or second paragraph.	You make a claim in the first or second paragraph but it is not clear and concise.	You make a claim, but it is difficult for the reader to find it within the paper.	Your claim is unclear to the reader.
Organization	Your writing has a compelling opening , an informative middle, and a satisfying conclusion.	Your opening outlines the points you make in the middle of the paper. You also summarize these in the conclusion.	Your writing has a beginning, a middle, and end. However, you don't really outline your points early on or summarize them at the end.	Your writing is somewhat organized but sometimes gets off topic.	Your writing is aimless and disorganized.
Arguments	You give clear reasons in support of your claim, discuss the reasons against your claim, and explain why it is valid anyway.	You give reasons both for and against your claim, but overlook some important reasons and/or don't explain why the claim still stands.	You give reasons in support of your claim. You also say that there are reasons against the claim but don't describe them adequately.	You give 1 or 2 weak reasons attempting to support your claim. However these are irrelevant and/or confusing.	You do not give any convincing reasons in support of your claim.
Sources	You include multiple appropriate quotations from multiple assigned sources that strongly support your claim.	You include multiple appropriate quotations from at least one of the assigned sources to support your claim.	You included at least one appropriate quotation from one of the assigned readings to support your claim.	You included a quotation from the assigned readings, but it was marginally valuable in supporting your claim.	You did not include quotations from the assigned readings to support your claim.
Accuracy	The facts in your paper are accurate within the context of the game <u>and</u> you include extra, real details from outside of the game.	The facts in your paper are accurate within the context of the game.	Your paper is mostly correct, but you was mistaken about at least one fact.	You had notable misconceptions about some minor facts in your paper.	You had serious misconceptions about major facts in your paper.
Originality	Your paper stands out as one of the most memorable in the class.	This paper presents some unique ideas <u>and</u> a fresh approach to the topic.	This paper presents a unique idea <u>or</u> approach to the topic beyond what was in the role sheet.	This paper is very similar to the other papers or the instructor-provided materials in its ideas and approach.	This paper could have been written by someone not taking this particular class.
Voice	Your paper sounds like a realistic character that cares about this topic.	Your paper clearly has the appropriate voice of your character.	Your paper has the voice of your character. However, that character comes across as either too bland or too phony.	Your paper lacks a voice of your character or it is so weak as to be imperceptible.	Your writing is too informal. It appears that you did not take this assignment seriously.
Sentences	Your sentences are clear, complete, and of varying lengths.	You have well-constructed sentences and appropriate punctuation.	The sentence structure is somewhat monotonous.	Your sentences are sometimes awkward with run-ons or fragments.	Many run-ons, fragments, and awkward phrasing make your essay hard to read. You use the same words over and over.
Words	The words you use are vivid , meaningful, and appropriate.	You generally use correct spelling and routine word choices.	Your word choice is often fine, but you have a few places where your word choice was inappropriate.	Your words are sometimes confusing <u>or</u> you have multiple spelling errors.	Numerous errors in word choice or spelling make your paper hard to read.