

ZIMSEC ADVANCED LEVEL HISTORY ESSAY WRITING

***ARCHIVING A GRADE**

Firstly believe in yourself and work on it but it's not an overnight process

20-22 The essay must be consistently analytical

Coherent , sequential accurate supported by factual evidence

Avoid description and narration

The information must correct and depict a clear understanding of the question

Arguments must be clear and clarified

NB ..question focused not topic focused

History questions differs and as such each question requires specific style of writing

Causation essay requires one to show how such a cause has led to some thing for example

Poor harvest was a leading cause towards the outbreak of the revolution chiefly it brought extreme social distress as the rural mob migrated into some urban areas searching for food . Consequently this brought about looting of bakeries and shops. Violence , commotion and disorder became rampant in the streets of Hotel De ville , Lyons, Brittany, La Ven Ndee and Paris.

Include these words in every causation essay

Propelled

fuelled

Necessitated

Precipitated

Spearheaded

Brought about

NB be question focused not topic focused

Don't be tempted to offer a very long description be straight forward to the point

Avoid long sentences

Use metaphors

Quote wre it is necessary and after quotation remember to comment it relating to the question

Do not repeat yr points

Start with more powerful points

Always remember topic sentence and reiteration

Eg

One can argue

It is true that , then you repeat part of the question attaching yr point there

Introductions must be well balanced

addressing the question

If the question is saying why ..yu should give more important reasons in yr introduction

In that introduction address yr stand point

It must be less than 11 lines

Give your yr line of argument

Don be neutral the whole essay or introduction

In case the question how far

To what extent

How important ...introduction must two sided with the affirmative side .greater extend

If the question is an assertion

Always start by saying

The above claim is valid on pretext that

The above verdict is valid considering the view that

The above question is valid simply because

The above assertion is justified chiefly because

...then u support the question after than yu thn address the second side

Here you can

However it can not be wholly argued that

It became unjustified to wholly argue that

It became a history fallacy

It became misleading to wholly say

One can not fully submit the fact that

Then y put yr lessr extent side points

Yr paragraphs must be uniform

Starting phrases

To begin with

To start with

Initially

Linking phrases

More to that

More over

In addition

To supplement the above paragraph

To make matters worse

To worsen the situation
Even less satisfactory
Having this
More often than not
However
Apart from the above
Besides that
Furthermore

Here are some typical ratios of a balanced essay

30:70

60:40

80:20

It means 30% supporting affirmative side and 70% non affirmative

This differs with type of questions
Be very careful with these type of questions

**How far* and to what extent was Napoleon able to exercise dominance in Europe from 1802 -15*

They are two issues
How far
To what extent

Command words

Assess, Evaluate
Examine ..give arguments to support the question and justify reasons

Of late Zimbabwean history has proven to be a poisonous gift as many students fail to score high marks .Read it thoroughly

Whenever writing Zimbabwean History questions always remember to apply the following linking phrases

- More often than not
- Very little is known
- Tradition confirmed that
- What it means therefore
- To supplement the above paragraph
- More to that

- Further more
- It most obvious that
- One can argue that
- It is true to say that
- All wat can be confidently said is that
- it is clear that
- It is claimed that
- The best evidence is that
- It is possible that
- _It seems more likely that
- What it means thefore is that
- It is just conceivable
- In this view
- More evidently that

Zimbabwean history requires one to give depth analysis and giving scholars

Clarify yr argument

Do not give casual arguments

Show that you know yr history

Concluding phrases

From the aforementioned paragraphs it can be concluded that

In the light of the above discussion

With this information on the table one can conclude that

Do not introduce new points

Make sure yr last sentence carries the judgement and directly answer the question

Treat this sentence as the last word in court

Reiteration words

Therefore

Hence

If this was the case

Considering this view

The remark that can be raised here

Prominent scholars in Zimbabwean history

Dr Stanley Ignatius Gorerazvo Mudenge commonly known as S.I G Mudenge

Proff David Norman Beach (D N Beach)

Proff N M Bhebbhe

E K Mashingaidze

Needham

Innocent Pikirai

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