## Rubric Practice Name:

Mr Best uses the same rubric for almost every writing response you give in this class. Your task is to grade several sample responses based upon that rubric.

### Thesis

**For the first set of responses, grade how well they did on their thesis writing. Highlight the thesis.**

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| Grade | **5** | **4** | **3** | **2** | **1** |
| **Thesis** | Establishes methods for evaluating the prompt as well as the 4 level criteria > | Makes a clear claim that provides supporting details and considers nuances of the question | Makes a clear claim that provides supporting details | Makes a clear claim | Makes a vague claim |

**Prompt:** did the Mongols have a more positive or more negative impact on the world?

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| **Intro A**  The Mongols were one of the greatest empires of the middle ages. Their armies were strong and went undefeated for nearly a century but their trade system was even greater. The Mongols were definitely a positive impact on the world because of how many technologies they diffused. | **Intro B**  Life in the middle ages was hard. War and violence were a part of life and many did not live into their 20s, let alone their 50s. The Mongols were yet another part of this cycle. They had a very strong negative impact on the world. This essay will show how. |
| **Intro C**  The Mongols were the greatest conquerors in world history. They conquered Asia in just 60 years and killed 10s of millions. They also created one of the greatest trade systems in history, bringing new inventions and knowledge to every corner of Eurasia. But were they more of a positive impact or more of a negative impact? This essay will investigate that question. | **Intro D**  The Mongols were great conquerors and great traders. They killed millions but they also helped millions. Their conquest was a negative impact but their trade was a purely positive impact. |
| **Intro E**  Like many Empires, the Mongols have a mixed legacy. They butchered cities, killed millions, raped and pillaged their way across Asia. On the other hand, their trade system undoubtedly provided new knowledge, science, and innovations to the many civilizations of Asia and surely helped the progress of society. However, in weighing their legacy, one must look at the amount the Mongols affected each person under their rule in both positive and negative ways. The Mongols therefor had a negative impact on the world because the good they caused had minor effects at best on the people they ruled over while their conquests clearly caused great suffering to millions. | **Intro F**  Like a great storm, the Mongols blew across Asia in the 1200s. Those civilizations they swept over were killed by the millions. So many died that global carbon levels were reduced for nearly a century. But despite all of this killing, the Mongols also facilitated one of the first great waves of communication across the world. The Mongols were overall a more positive than negative impact because the trade system they established helped advance human civilization more than the deaths they caused hurt that civilization. |

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| **Grade** | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| Intros you would give that grade (should be one at every level) |  |  |  |  |  |  |

### Evidence

**For the second set of responses, grade how well they did on evidence**

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| Grade | **4** | **3** | **2** | **1** |
| **Evidence** | Explains trends in evidence and explains contrary evidence. | Explains trends in evidence but does not recognize contrary evidence | Uses reference to evidence but does not group into trends. | Makes vague reference to evidence |

**Thesis:** The Mongols were definitely a positive impact on the world because of how many technologies they diffused.

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| **Evidence A**  The Mongols helped spread several important inventions such as paper, gunpowder, and the compass which all came from China and were diffused to other parts of the world. They also helped diffuse the sciences of the Caliphate such as astronomy, algebra, and medicine. | **Evidence B**  The Mongols were not inventors but they facilitated the diffusion of important inventions between the many societies of Eurasia. In general this diffusion sparked new discoveries. In Europe, the arrival of gunpowder started a massive wave of European gunpowder innovations such as muskets. In China, the arrival of glass-making and Islamic astronomy launched a revival of Chinese astronomy. |
| **Evidence C**  The Mongols spread many inventions throughout Eurasia. It is good when people diffused inventions as it can help a lot of people when you get new ideas. | **Evidence D**  Technologies are helpful and people who develop them are really good for the world. Because of this, the Mongols were good for the world. |
| **Evidence E**  The Mongols generally had a positive impact on the development of Eurasian societies. This impact is especially clear when considering Europe. After the Mongols, Europe became the most advanced continent on Earth. It accomplished this with technology and science that only arrive in Europe because of the Mongols, things like algebra, the printing press, and gunpowder. The Mongols certainly did have a negative impact as well, killing millions of people, but the progress made because of the Mongols is surely greater than the progress lost by that destruction. | |

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| **Grade** | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| Evidence you would give that grade (should be one at every level) |  |  |  |  |  |

### Analysis

**For the second set of responses, grade how well they did on analysis**

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| Grade | **4** | **3** | **2** | **1** |
| **Analysis** | Goes into in-depth analysis whenever appropriate  (only one response so won’t be able to assess 4-level) | At least once goes into in-depth analysis of the relevance of evidence | Consistently discusses relevance of evidence but analysis is basic | Only barely discusses relevance of evidence |

**Evidence:** The Mongols helped diffuse the sciences of the Caliphate such as astronomy, algebra, and medicine.

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| **Analysis A**  The impact of these sciences is very significant. Algebra is an especially important stepping stone in the development of other sciences. None of the triumphs of the modern world would be possible without Algebra. Therefore its diffusion under the Mongols had an very positive impact on all the societies that received it. | **Analysis B**  This shows that the Mongols had a positive impact on the places they interacted with because those places may not have received these useful sciences if not for the Mongols. |
| **Analysis C**  This evidence is useful and shows how helpful the Mongols were to many places in and around their empire. | **Analysis D**  That shows that the Mongols had a significant impact. The Mongols diffused a lot and so they helped a lot of people. Diffusion is really helpful for many people. |

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| **Grade** | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| Analyses you would give that grade (should be one at every level) | No response |  |  |  |  |