CHANGE OVER TIME ESSAYS

\*It is essential that you know in what time periods important events happened. For example, if the prompt tells you to:

**Describe and analyze the cultural, economic, and political impact of Islam on ONE of the following regions between 1000 C.E. and 1750 C.E. Be sure to discuss continuities as well as change.**

**West Africa South Asia Europe**

\*You cannot mention the Umayyad Caliphate as it occurred prior to 1000 C.E

\*You cannot mention the end of Ottoman Empire as it occurred outside the time period.

\*Also ask yourself why is the question asking from 1000 CE? – There must be a reason.

To avoid this think of some Marker Events to help you remember the periods

10,000 BC 600 CE

600 CE 1450 CE

1450 CE 1750 CE

1750 CE 1914 CE

1914 CE Present

CHANGE OVER TIME ESSAYS

Change Over Time essays are similar to Comparison essays since they both look at how something is similar or different than something else. In the COT essay, the similarity is how something did not change and the differences are the changes. The important element is why things did or did not change.

The most important elements of the Change Over Time essay are that the student must show what has changed and what has remained continuous throughout those changes from the beginning to the end of the time period given. The continuities must be substantial, not obvious (Mexicans remained Mexicans), nor can change be continuous.

Essay Structure

1. Point by Point

* Introduction—Thesis and Definitions
* Section I- Item 1 – how it changed/continued from beginning to end, and why
* Section II- Item 2 – how it changed/continued from beginning to end, and why
* Section III- Item 3 – how it changed/continued from beginning to end, and why
* Conclusion

**You would use the point by point method if you had a question like this:**

*Describe and analyze the cultural, economic, and political impact of Islam on ONE of the following regions between 1000 C.E. and 1750 C.E. Be sure to discuss continuities as well as change.*

Thesis:

Between \_\_(beginning date)\_\_\_\_ and \_\_(ending date)\_\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_(area you chose to write about\_\_\_) changed in the area of \_\_\_\_(category(ies) from the prompt)\_\_\_ but stayed the same in the area of \_\_(the other category(ies) from the prompt)\_\_.

1. Time – Beginning-Middle-End

* Introduction—Thesis and Definitions
* Section I – Beginning of the Time Period – what were the items like at the beginning
* Section II – Middle events – what affected the items being discussed or not, and why
* Section III – End of the Time Period – how items changed or remained unchanged, and why
* Conclusion

**You would use the Beginning-middle-end method if you have a question like this:**

*Analyze continuities and changes in patterns of interaction along the Silk Road 200BCE to 1450CE*

Between \_\_(beginning date)\_\_\_\_ and \_\_(ending date)\_\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_(area given in the question) The following\_\_\_, \_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_changed over time whereas \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ were continuous.

Many students find CCOT questions difficult to answer as they struggle with how to plan the essay. On the next two pages I have given you an example of two different options. For option 1, on the left side of your page write down everything you can remember about the start of the period. Then as you move right (through time) write down any changes that occurred, THEN go back to the beginning and drag anything that has remained the same across to the right. Continue this process to the end of the time period.

**2004 CCOT Prompt**:

**Option 1**

Choose TWO of the areas below and analyze the labor systems in both between 1750 and 1914.

**RUSSIA LATIN AMERICA WESTERN EUROPE**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **1750** | **1860’s** | **1880s** | **1905** | **1914** |
| **Characteristics at the beginning of the time period**  Agricultural base strip method farming, the peasants are serfs which means they are tied to the land, lack of freedom, living at a subsistence level.  Agrarian Economy but fertile land is unequally spread.  Widespread poverty throughout Russia. | Changes  1861 – Emancipation of the serfs by the Tsar. | Changes  Beginning of industrialization (saying late 19C is ok) – factory system, wage system, social results of that. | Changes  Political revolution – wanted higher wages, shorter hours, freedom of speech – October Manifesto  Farmers seek to seize land from the landowners | Changes  WW1 called off to war  Wages lower than in 1905, food shortages and strikes.  Unrest in the countryside |
| Continuities   * Still an agricultural base strip method continues. * Still a lack of freedom political, living at a subsistence level. * Widespread poverty continues. | Continuities   * Still an agricultural base strip method continues. * Still a lack of freedom political, living at a subsistence level. * Widespread poverty continues. | * Still an agricultural base strip method continues. * Tsar reneges on his promises so poverty, lack of freedom continues + farmers still living at a subsistence level. * Widespread poverty continues. * Lack of workers rights | * Still an agricultural base strip method continues. * Still a lack of freedom political, living at a subsistence level. * Widespread poverty continues. * Lack of workers rights . |

**Option 2 Draw a table**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **RUSSIA** | |
| Changes | Continuities |
| * 1492 – 1860, strip method farming, the peasants are serfs which means they are tied to the land, lack of freedom, living at a subsistence level * 1861 – emancipation of the serfs by the Tsar (Alexander II, if not sure of name, don’t say) * 1880’s – beginning of industrializations (saying late 19C is ok) – factory system, wage system, social results of that. * 1905 – Political revolution – wanted higher wages, shorter hours, freedom of speech – October Manifesto. * 1914 – WW1 called off to war | * Continued poverty in the countryside and the cities. * lack of workers rights even after the October Manifesto as the Tsar ignores the Dumas and breaks the promises of the October Manifesto. * Russia was still basically an agrarian system with only a small percentage of the population living in cities. |