

WRITING - The TEEL Method

As a Social Studies student it is inevitable that you will be assessed on your ability to express yourself through writing during the school year. In order to best help you to do this the department recommends that you use the TEEL method to help you compose your written responses to ensure you express your answers in a clear and concise manner. Your teachers will cover this with you in class but here is a simple overview of the method and how it works.

Sample Question: Why is Alexander the Great considered to have been a great leader?

	Guidance	Examples
Topic Sentence	A topic sentence, or thesis, that details the main point(s) of the paragraph:	<i>Alexander the Great was a successful ruler because he created long lasting effects on cultures that still continue to this day</i>
Evidence / Examples	Example (Think of an example that helps support your thesis statement):	<i>An example of his legacy would be the creation of a Hellenistic Society.</i>
Explanation	Explanation of Example (What does this specific example mean? Be specific. Expand your example by providing additional important details) How does the example prove your thesis (Why is this example important? :	<i>Hellenistic is the combination of Greek, Persian, and Egyptian cultures. During this remarkable time, people were encouraged to pursue a formal education and develop many different kinds of art. New forms of math, science, and art design make a great impact on contemporary society.</i> <i>If this new way of life hadn't been as successful as it was, Alexander's legacy wouldn't be as memorable and groundbreaking..</i>
Using Analytical words in the explanation	Make sure you are constantly linking back to the question that was asked.	This implies This tells us that.... Therefore it is clear that... This proves.....
Link	Conclusion Sentence (Sum up the main argument of your paragraph in one sentence)	<i>By conquering many countries and merging cultures, Alexander the Great will be credited in history for his many achievements</i>