

### Research Paper Rubric

**Question:** *What was the social and political impact of the Atlantic Slave Trade?*

**Directions:** You will use this document for both your first and final draft. Your teacher will highlight the scores you get for each draft, and will provide you with comments on your first draft if you submit it on time.

Ideas		Support	
5	Clear opening paragraph that provides necessary historical context for an unknowing reader and includes a thesis. Each paragraph builds upon previous ideas.	5	Writer chooses best evidence to enhance arguments, and commentary deepens understanding of the evidence. Includes 4 sources accurately cited.
4	Clear opening/thesis that provides almost all necessary historical context. 80% of paragraphs build upon previous ideas.	4	Writer chooses best evidence to enhance reasons, and commentary often deepens understanding of the evidence. Includes 3 sources accurately cited.
3	Clear opening/thesis that provides some historical context. 60% of paragraphs build upon previous ideas.	3	Writer develops reasons that are occasionally broad, or occasionally repetitive. Evidence is present but is sometimes lacking relevance. Includes 2 sources accurately cited.
2	Clear opening/thesis that takes a stance on the issue. Paragraphs contain historical inaccuracies, are repetitive, or lack historical context for unknowing reader.	2	Writer develops thesis into a set of reasons that are overly broad, or occasionally repetitive. Writer utilizes evidence but it is lacking in relevance or does not include enough evidence. Includes 1 source accurately cited.
1	No thesis—Writer does not take a stance, or takes a totally unclear stance on the issue. Ideas are illogical.	1	Writer does not include evidence to support any claims. No source or irrelevant source.
Organization		Language	
5	Clear organizational strategy including introduction and conclusion. Ideas are ordered logically. Transitions are used to flawlessly transition between and within paragraphs.	5	Writer uses both sophisticated vocabulary and sentence structures throughout entire piece to enhance the arguments. No errors present.
4	Clear organizational strategy. Ideas are ordered logically. Transitions are used to clarify relationship between ideas.	4	Writer uses some sophisticated vocabulary and sentence structure. Minimal noticeable errors.
3	Clear organizational strategy. Ideas are ordered logically. Transitions are present but sometimes fail to clarify relationship between ideas.	3	Writer occasionally impresses with word choice/sentence structure. Any errors do not hinder meaning.
2	Paragraph breaks are used. Transitions are sometimes present but often do not clarify relationship between ideas.	2	Writer's word choice is basic and often unclear. Sentence structure is inconsistent or very basic. Errors distract from understanding writer's meaning.
1	Paragraph breaks are not used.	1	Writing is not understandable due to constant errors.

**Evaluating *The 1619 Project's* Claims**

Unit by African American History at Mastery Charter Schools,  
part of the 2021 cohort of *The 1619 Project* Education Network

1619

Education Network

<b>Scoring</b>	
<b>1st Draft Score:</b>	
<b>Your First Draft Comments if Submitted on Time</b>	
<b>What did you change from your first draft to your second?</b>	
<b>Your Response:</b>	
<b>Final Draft Score:</b>	
<b>2nd Draft Comments:</b>	