

ENDURING ISSUES ESSAY #1**Day I – Annotation and Planning:**

Note: You have only today's class period to get as far as you can on the following tasks. You must hand in this packet at the end of class today, whether or not you are finished with all of the steps. (Remember, you will not be graded on the accuracy of your annotations—you're just doing them to help you write your essay.) I will post the documents on the class website tonight so that you may study them further. You will not be able to bring any materials from home to use on the essay exam. All you will be allowed to use on essay day is this packet, a pen, and writing paper that I will provide.

- 1) Annotate the documents using MEOW. The documents are marked to remind you of the method.
- 2) Draft your introduction paragraph using the BAR method. A reminder of the method is included.
- 3) If there's time, start planning your body paragraphs by writing your topic sentences (first sentence of each body paragraph) and/or indicating what evidence (documents + outside info) you plan to use.

Day II - Extended Essay:

An enduring issue is an issue that exists across time. It is one that many societies have attempted to address with varying degrees of success.

In your essay

- Identify and define an enduring issue raised by this set of documents.
- Using your knowledge of Social Studies and evidence from the documents, argue why the issue you selected is significant and how it has endured across time.

Be sure to

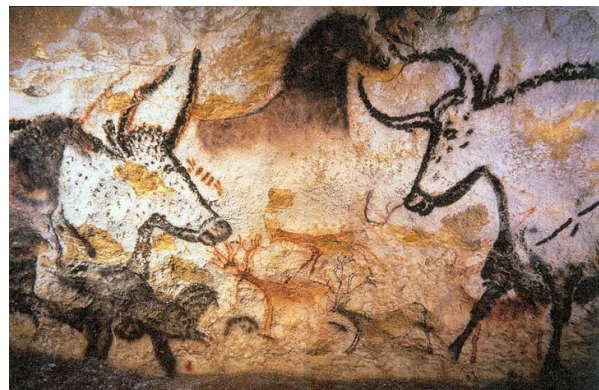
- Identify the issue based on a historically accurate interpretation of three documents.
- Define the issue using evidence from at least three documents.
- Argue that this is a significant issue that has endured by showing:
 - How the issue has affected people or been affected by people
 - How the issue has continued to be an issue or changed over time
- Include outside information from your knowledge of social studies and evidence from the documents.

Document 1**Main Idea**

Enduring Issue



Paleolithic bone tools, South China
(ca. 32,000 BCE)



Paleolithic cave painting, Lascaux
Cave, France (ca. 18,000 BCE)

Outside Information

When?

Document 2

Main Idea

Enduring
Issue

Then, about 6000 B.C., and somewhere in the Near East (as far as we know), the Neolithic way of life began. It is still called “Neolithic” (New Stone Age, as Mesolithic means Middle, and Paleolithic means Old Stone Age), because the older anthropologists saw everything in the light of stonework, and thought of this “period” as the age of polished stone axes. But it means, rather, a state of culture in which food is planted and bred, not hunted and gathered — in which food is domesticated, not wild. If we had to choose the greatest single change in human history right up to the present, this would be it. I mean, of course, a change by cultural evolution, as distinct from a biological change like standing erect, or gradually becoming able to use culture and language in the first place. And I do not mean that the change was sudden, or dramatic to those who were changing, as though a light were being switched on. It was dramatic, but long after, in its consequences, because everything else we have achieved flowed out of this as a beginning. . . .

Outside
Information

— William Howells, *Back of History: The Story of Our Own Origins* (1954)

When?

Document 3

Main Idea

Enduring
Issue

. . . The Neolithic Revolution also changed the way people lived. In place of scattered hunting communities, the farmers lived in villages. Near groups of villages, small towns grew up, and later cities too. Thus the Neolithic Revolution made civilization itself possible. (The Ancient Near East) Within the villages, towns and cities, it was possible for people to specialize in the sort of work they could do best. Many stopped producing food at all, making instead tools and other goods that farmers needed, and for which they gave them food in exchange. This process of exchange led to trade and traders, and the growth of trade made it possible for people to specialize even more. . . .

Outside
Information

- Source: D. M. Knox, *The Neolithic Revolution* (1980)

When?

Document 4

Main Idea

Enduring
Issue

Although the first domestication of plants and animals around 8,000 B.C.E. occurred nearby, in the “Fertile Crescent” region of northern Syria and southern Anatolia (Turkey), agriculture did not reach Mesopotamia until approximately 5,000 B.C.E. “Dry” (unirrigated) farming requires at least 8 inches (20 centimeters) of rain a year. The hot, arid climate of southern Mesopotamia calls for irrigation, the artificial provision of water to crops. Initially, people probably channeled floodwater into nearby fields, but shortly after 3000 BCE, they learned to construct canals to supply water as needed and carry it to more distant fields.

Outside
Information

Ox-drawn plows, developed by around 4,000 BCE cut a furrow in the earth into which carefully measured amounts of seed dropped from an attached funnel. Farmers favored barley as a cereal crop because it could tolerate the Mesopotamian climate and withstand the toxic effects of salt drawn to the surface of the soil by evaporation. Fields stood fallow (unplanted) every other year to replenish the nutrients in the soil. Date palms provided food, fiber, and wood. Garden plots produced vegetables. Reeds growing along the rivers and in the marshy southern delta yielded raw material for mats, baskets, huts, and boats. Fish was a dietary staple. Herds of sheep and goats, which grazed on fallow land or the nearby desert, provided wool, milk, and meat. Donkeys, originally domesticated in northeast Africa, joined cattle as beasts of burden in the third millennium B.C.E., as did camels from Arabia and horses from the mountains in the second millennium B.C.E.

– Richard W. Bulliet, *The Earth and Its Peoples* (2008)

When?

Document 5

Main Idea

**Tablet recording the allocation of beer,
southern Iraq (3100-3000 BC)**

Enduring
Issue



Outside
Information

When?