Name_____   Period_____

Causes of the American Revolution Essay Rubric

	4	3	2	1
Introduction	Effective and thoughtful hook. ------------- Numerous well-defined historical background supports that are highly relevant to essay, creating superb context. ------------- Contains strong transition from background to thesis statement. ------------- Thesis is strong, focused and well- stated. 20-19	Background support are presented but not all general background points are relevant to the essay to creating context. ------------- Contains transition from background to thesis statement. ------------- Focused thesis 18-15	Little relevant background information is present, thus context is lacking ------------- Contains weak or insufficient transition from background to thesis statement. ------------- Thesis is unclear, awkwardly stated. Thesis needs improvement. 14-13	Little to no relevant background information. Context is not evident. ------------- Does not contain transition from background to thesis statement. ------------- Weak or missing thesis. >13
Body Paragraphs	Excellent topic sentences ------------- Numerous distinctive and appropriately analyzed details that support thesis. Significance of content fully recognized. ------------- Internal transitions evident which enhance readability of the paragraph and make insightful connections. ------------- Closing comments strengthen the connection to the thesis. 60-53	Good topic sentences ------------- Well-explained and analyzed historical supports however some facts/analysis need to be expanded. ------------- Internal transitions evident to some extent. ------------- Closing comments evident. 52-42	Topic sentences need improvement. ------------- Few well-explained historical supports ------------- Internal transitions not evident or poorly used. ------------- Weak closing comments. 41-36	Missing topic sentences. ------------- Poor / No thesis supports and historical facts/analysis. ------------- Internal transitions not evident ------------- No closing comments. >36
Conclusion	Thesis is eloquently rephrased. ------------- Summary points identify the overall significance and/or lesson learned from each body paragraph/thesis support. ------------- Closing comments intuitive and relevant to topic. 10-9	Thesis is rephrased clearly. ------------- Summary points identify significance of each body paragraph. However analysis might need to be expanded. ------------- Good closing comments. 8-7	Thesis is restated, not rephrased or the rephrasing of the thesis changed the nature of the thesis. ------------- Summary point are present but lacking analysis/ lessons learned. ------------- Closing comments brief. Closing comments too far removed from focus of essay. 6-5	Thesis is not restated. ------------- Little attempt or no attempt at summary points. ------------- Closing comments basic or absent. Closing comments too similar to thesis. >4
Organization, Language, Conventions	Clear, logical organization that is easy to follow and supports the thesis in a sophisticated manner. ------------- Written language is refined, clear, and engaging. ------------- Consistent control of grammar, punctuation, capitalization and spelling. 10-9	Generally clear organization that is easy to follow and supports the thesis. ------------- Written language is clear. ------------- Grammar, punctuation, capitalization and spelling do not interfere with readability. 8-7	Organization is not easy to follow and but does generally supports the thesis. ------------- Written language is fair. ------------- Grammar, punctuation, capitalization and spelling interfere with readability. 6-5	Poorly organized. ------------- Written language is poor. ---------- Grammar, punctuation, capitalization and spelling severely interfere with readability. >4