Enduring Issues (EI) Essay Guide

This guide will assist you in completing the Enduring Issue (EI) Essay question for the NYS Global History and Geography II

The basic idea behind writing an essay is to improve your writing skills with each draft and subsequent essay. The format you will use for these essays will be familiar to you. The **THEID** format with some additional structures/steps in order for you to work with the documents, compile evidence, and argue for a particular issue or problem.

The historian skills you have been utilizing all year are necessary to understand and complete this part of the exam and are located under **Useful Terminology** in the column to the right.

There are some Main Components of your essay that are required:

- Using Three (3) or More Documents
- Including an Introduction, Three (3) Body Paragraphs, and a Conclusion
- Including Historical Context/Circumstances for All Three (3) documents
- Including Outside Information throughout all paragraphs.
- Analyze why this Enduring Issue is Significant/Important/Problem
- Analyze How People are Affected **(Profundity)**
- How Many, and Where (Place) they are affected **(Quantity)**
- Analyze a Continuity or a Change Over-Time **(Durability)**
- How does it have **(Relevance)** to today?

Working with Documents

Step #1: Throughout the Year/Before Exam; Have an awareness of which Enduring Issue (EI) or Problem you could identify in the docs.

Step #2: Read each document and for each:

a) Categorize the document into a specific time period or sub-time period. Ex. The French Revolution, or the Age of Napoleon

b) Write minimum of two (2) potential Enduring Issue/Problems

c) Annotate the documents (circle words, underline the main claim)

d) Categorize Enduring Issue/Problem into a category (PERSIA)

Step #3: Weigh all the documents for what Enduring Issue/Problem would best fit your essay and discussion. Your decision should be based upon the:

The Enduring Issue/Problem That You Know Best

VS.

The Amount of Evidence You See for each Enduring Issue/Problem

Step #4: Choose the Enduring Issue/Problem that provides the best balance between the choices above.

Step #5: Skim documents and identify one or more pieces of evidence to support your Enduring Issue/Problem.

You will need evidence from at least ***three (3)*** documents. *The more evidence you find and include the better your discussion will be.*

Useful Terminology

Contextualization

Historical Circumstances (Context) Contextualization:
Refers to the historical Circumstances that led to this event/idea/time period/development. (5W's, How, PERSIA, etc)

-OR-

Geographic Context: Refers to where this historical development/event took place and why it took place there.

Historical Significance / Relevance

Historical Significance: is measured in four (4) different ways through 1) **Profundity** 2) **Durability** 3) **Quantity** 4) **Relevance**

Profundity

Profundity: Refers to how deeply were people affected by the Enduring Issue/Problem? - or - How did people affect the Enduring Issue?

Durability / Continuity or Change Over Time

Durability: Has the issue remained the same over a long period of time? Short Term? Long Term? One way of looking at Durability is through **Periodization**. What time period are each of your documents? Did the Enduring Issue span more than one time period?
Continuity: Refers to how the issue has remained the same over time?
Change Over Time: Refers to how the issue has changed over time. What occurred Before, During and After? How long? Years? Decades? Centuries?

Quantity

Quantity: Refers to how many people's lives were affected and where? Was it locally—thousands, regional/country/empire - millions, worldwide—billions?

Relevance

Relevance: Refers to 1) Why is the Enduring Issue important? 2) Does the issue still occur today? If so, where?
3) What has been done to address the issue? Has it been resolved?

Over

Enduring Issue
Writing Your Essay

An Enduring Issue is any problem or situation that has existed across many time periods in history. It can also be an event that affected people or was affected by people at the time and into the future. An enduring issue is one that many individuals or groups have attempted to address with varying degrees of success.

Step 1: **Identify** the Enduring Issue/Problem you have seen in at least three (3) documents

Step 2: Create a **Definition** for your Enduring Issue/Problem.

Step 3: **Identify** which documents you have chosen. *The Enduring Issue of _____ can best been seen in _____ (doc#), _____(doc#), and _____ (doc#).*

Step 4: **Explain** What led to the document related to your Issue/Problem for each document chosen. What came before (cause of) _____ *occurred during the* _____ *because of* _____

Step 5: **State** how you are going to explain the Significance of the Enduring Issue. *The Enduring Issue of _____ can be measured in three ways which are; profundity, durability, and quantity.* **Note:** You should start at the 1st doc chosen, and then 2nd doc, and 3rd doc in chronological order. This is a parachute and overview of the events that you have chosen. Tell the story, not by using the words in the documents but the story around the docs. Your body paragraphs below will be the Scuba Diving into the evidence for your Enduring Issue/Problem.

(P)rofundity—Body Paragraph #1

2Docs

Step #1a: **Answer the question:**

How deeply were people affected/impacted by the Enduring Issue/Problem?

The Enduring Issue of _____ had a profound impact on people in (many/various/a plethora of /numerous) ways.

Step #2a: **Introduce Evidence— *1st Piece of Evidence***

According to (Name of document/author/writing, etc) people were affected by (Enduring Issue) (because/in that) _____ (doc #).

Step #3a: Discuss Relevance of the Evidence

This evidence is (significant/relevant) because _____.

Step #4a: **Introduce Another Piece of Evidence**

Furthermore, according to (Name of document/author/writing, etc) people were affected by (Enduring Issue) (because/in that) _____ (doc #).

Step #3a: Discuss the Relevance/ Significance/Importance of the Evidence

This evidence is (significant/relevant) because _____.

Note: In this paragraph you must show how people were impacted / affected deeply and explain why it mattered.

(D)urability—Body Paragraph #2

2Docs

Step #1b: **Answer the question:**

How did the Enduring Issue remain the same or change over time? How long were they affected?

The Enduring Issue of _____ had continuity/changed over the course of history.

Step #2b: **Introduce Evidence — *1st Piece of Evidence***

According to (Name of document/author/writing, etc) the (Enduring Issue) is shown to (have changed/ had continuity) in that _____ (doc #).

Step #3b: **Discuss Relevance of the Evidence**

This evidence is (significant/relevant) because _____.

Step #4b: **Introduce Another Piece of Evidence**

According to (Name of document/author/writing, etc) the (Enduring Issue) is shown to (have changed/had continuity) in that _____ (doc #).

Step #5b: **Discuss Relevance/Significance/ Importance of the Evidence**

This evidence is (significant/relevant) because _____.

Note: In this paragraph you must show how the issue/problem changed or remained the same from your first document chosen to the last document chosen. (How these documents went from here (1st doc) to there (last doc).

(Q)uantity—Body Paragraph #3

1Doc

Step #1c: **Answer the question:**

How many people were affected/impacted by the Enduring Issue? And where were they from?

One of the ways you measure the impact of the Enduring Issue of _____ is to evaluate how many people were impacted.

Step #2c: **Introduce Evidence**

According to (Name of document/author/writing, etc) _____ people were impacted by (Enduring Issue) because _____ (doc #).

Step #3c: **Discuss Relevance/ Importance/Significance of the Evidence**

This evidence is (significant/relevant) because _____.

Note: In this paragraph you must show what (people/group(s)) in (nation(s)/region(s)/the world) were impacted / affected and how many (locally—thousands, country/region millions, worldwide—billions). Where can be a(n) continent, region, country, empire, colony, a direction (The East, The West, Eastern Europe, Western Europe, SouthEastern Europe, North Africa) or Geographic (Desert, Rain Forest, etc)

- **Outside Information must be added to every paragraph**
- **Use HAPPY for analysis of docs**
- **Use PERSIA for categorizing docs**

(R)elevance—Conclusion

Step #1: Restate your Definition of the Enduring Issue changing your wording slightly.

Step #2: Give at least one (1) modern day example of the Issue/Problem. (2 examples are better) and explain the relevance/significance/importance *One modern-day example of _____ is _____ because _____. It is connected to the issue/problem of _____ because _____. It is significant/relevant/important because the issue/problem has / has not been resolved even though no/some/many/a plethora of attempts have been made to address the issue/problem.*