

## WHAP Essay Format

**Paragraph 1 (Introduction)- Contextualization** (paint a big overall picture for the reader, explain how we got to this point), **THESIS STATEMENT** (this is your argument- this is your answer to the question and sets up the rest of your paper)

**Body Paragraph 1-** Apply the **targeted skill** (topic 1), relate it back to your thesis

**Body Paragraph 2-** Apply the **targeted skill** (topic 2), relate it back to your thesis

**Body Paragraph 3-** Apply the **targeted skill** (topic 3), relate it back to your thesis

**Paragraph 5 (Conclusion)-** Wrap it up, summarize your thesis one last time, complete a **synthesis** piece

Example response:

Prompt: Compare and contrast Eastern Europe and Western Europe during the period 600-1450 CE.

**Paragraph 1 (Introduction)-** From about 600 BCE to 600 CE, the Roman Empire was the dominant civilization in the Mediterranean Basin. As the empire became increasingly unstable and difficult to administer as it expanded, it was eventually divided in half by the emperor Diocletian into Western Rome and Eastern Rome. Western Rome was invaded by the Huns and would eventually fragment into many different kingdoms, while Eastern Rome would continue Rome's legacy as the Byzantine Empire. These two halves would come to define Europe during the period 600-1450 CE. While Eastern and Western Europe do have the Roman legacy and a strong Christian faith in common, they also differ in the distinct forms of Christianity that dominate each empire, the social structures that persist, and contrasting levels of economic advancement.

( blue=CONTEXTUALIZATION, yellow=THESIS)

Body Paragraph 1- RELIGION- Compare/contrast- tie it back to thesis

Body Paragraph 2- SOCIAL- Compare/contrast- tie it back to thesis

Body Paragraph 3- ECONOMIC- Compare/contrast-tie it back to thesis

Paragraph 5 (Conclusion)- Wrap it up, summarize your thesis one last time, complete a **synthesis** piece (identify a connection to something similar to the prompt, just happening earlier or later, and explain the connection).