RATING GUIDE FOR PART III A
AND PART III B
(DOCUMENT-BASED QUESTION)

Updated information regarding the rating of this examination may be posted on the New York State Education Department’s web site during the rating period. Visit the site at: http://www.p12.nysed.gov/assessment/ and select the link “Scoring Information” for any recently posted information regarding this examination. This site should be checked before the rating process for this examination begins and several times throughout the Regents Examination period.

Contents of the Rating Guide

For **Part III A** Scaffold (open-ended) questions:
- A question-specific rubric

For **Part III B** (DBQ) essay:
- A content-specific rubric
- Prescored answer papers. Score levels 5 and 1 have two papers each, and score levels 4, 3, and 2 have three papers each. They are ordered by score level from high to low.
- Commentary explaining the specific score awarded to each paper
- Five prescored practice papers

General:
- Test Specifications
- Web addresses for the test-specific conversion chart and teacher evaluation forms

**Mechanics of Rating**

The procedures on page 2 are to be used in rating papers for this examination. More detailed directions for the organization of the rating process and procedures for rating the examination are included in the Information Booklet for Scoring the Regents Examinations in Global History and Geography and United States History and Government.
UNITED STATES HISTORY AND GOVERNMENT

Rating the Essay Question

(1) Follow your school’s procedures for training raters. This process should include:

Introduction to the task—
- Raters read the task
- Raters identify the answers to the task
- Raters discuss possible answers and summarize expectations for student responses

Introduction to the rubric and anchor papers—
- Trainer leads review of specific rubric with reference to the task
- Trainer reviews procedures for assigning holistic scores, i.e., by matching evidence from the response to the rubric
- Trainer leads review of each anchor paper and commentary

Practice scoring individually—
- Raters score a set of five papers independently without looking at the scores and commentaries provided
- Trainer records scores and leads discussion until the raters feel confident enough to move on to actual rating

(2) When actual rating begins, each rater should record his or her individual rating for a student’s essay on the rating sheet provided, not directly on the student’s essay or answer sheet. The rater should not correct the student’s work by making insertions or changes of any kind.

(3) Each essay must be rated by at least two raters; a third rater will be necessary to resolve scores that differ by more than one point.

Rating the Scaffold (open-ended) Questions

(1) Follow a similar procedure for training raters.
(2) The scaffold questions are to be scored by one rater.
(3) The scores for each scaffold question must be recorded in the student’s examination booklet and on the student’s answer sheet. The letter identifying the rater must also be recorded on the answer sheet.
(4) Record the total Part III A score if the space is provided on the student’s Part I answer sheet.

Schools are not permitted to rescore any of the open-ended questions (scaffold questions, thematic essay, DBQ essay) on this exam after each question has been rated the required number of times as specified in the rating guides, regardless of the final exam score. Schools are required to ensure that the raw scores have been added correctly and that the resulting scale score has been determined accurately. Teachers may not score their own students’ answer papers.

The scoring coordinator will be responsible for organizing the movement of papers, calculating a final score for each student’s essay, recording that score on the student’s Part I answer sheet, and determining the student’s final examination score. The conversion chart for this examination is located at http://www.p12.nysed.gov/assessment/ and must be used for determining the final examination score.
United States History and Government
Part A Specific Rubric
Document-Based Question
June 2016

Document 1

War Message to Congress

...The grounds for such intervention may be briefly summarized as follows:
First. In the cause of humanity and to put an end to the barbarities, bloodshed, starvation, and horrible miseries now existing there, and which the parties to the conflict are either unable or unwilling to stop or mitigate [lessen]. It is no answer to say this is all in another country, belonging to another nation, and is therefore none of our business. It is specially our duty, for it is right at our door.
Second. We owe it to our citizens in Cuba to afford them that protection and indemnity [security] for life and property which no government there can or will afford, and to that end to terminate the conditions that deprive them of legal protection.
Third. The right to intervene may be justified by the very serious injury to the commerce, trade, and business of our people and by the wanton [unlimited] destruction of property and devastation of the island…
The issue is now with the Congress. It is a solemn responsibility. I have exhausted every effort to relieve the intolerable condition of affairs which is at our doors. Prepared to execute every obligation imposed upon me by the Constitution and the law, I await your action.…

Source: President William McKinley, Message to Congress, April 11, 1898

1 What are two reasons President William McKinley is asking Congress to declare war?

Score of 2 or 1:
• Award 1 credit (up to a maximum of 2 credits) for each different reason President William McKinley is asking Congress to declare war
  Examples: for the cause of humanity; to put an end to the barbarities/horrible miseries existing in Cuba; to put an end to the bloodshed in Cuba; to put an end to the starvation in Cuba; although Cuba belongs to another nation, it is at our door; we owe it to our citizens in Cuba/we owe American citizens in Cuba protection/we owe American citizens in Cuba indemnity for life/for property; to end conditions in Cuba that deprive American citizens of legal protection; commerce/trade/business of Americans have been injured; because of the wanton destruction of property or because of the devastation of the island; all other efforts to relieve the intolerable conditions of affairs have been exhausted; it is our duty to intervene

Note: To receive maximum credit, two different reasons President William McKinley asked Congress to declare war must be stated. For example, to protect life and property of American citizens in Cuba and to provide American citizens in Cuba legal protection are the same reason expressed in different words. In this and similar cases, award only one credit for this question.

Score of 0:
• Incorrect response
  Examples: Cubans are American citizens; American citizens want to move to Cuba; the Constitution states it is the law; it is none of our business
• Vague response
  Examples: there are grounds; parties are unable to stop; the issue is with Congress; miseries; conditions; deprive them of legal protection; he is prepared to execute every obligation
• No response
2 Based on documents 2a and 2b, what are two ways the United States might be affected by the Spanish-American War?

Score of 2 or 1:
• Award 1 credit (up to a maximum of 2 credits) for each different way the United States might be affected by the Spanish-American War based on these documents
  
  Examples: anti-expansionists would be upset; annexation of the Philippines will be a burden because the Philippine people want to be independent; annexing the Philippines would tax our military/naval strength; it will be difficult to keep in subjection eight millions of people six thousand miles away; it will be difficult to keep in subjection people scattered over twelve hundred islands; disagreements between expansionists and anti-expansionists; annexation of the Philippines provides no benefits to the United States; an enlightened foreign policy led to rational expansion; rational expansion led us to annex Hawaii and Puerto Rico

Note: To receive maximum credit, two different ways the United States might be affected by the Spanish-American War must be stated. For example, the people of the Philippines are far from United States shores and it will be difficult to keep eight millions of people six thousand miles away in subjection are the same way expressed in different words. In this and similar cases, award only one credit for this question.

Score of 0:
• Incorrect response
  Examples: anti-expansionists would be in favor; the Philippine people want to be annexed; the Philippines are close to our shores; it is too old to change
• Vague response
  Examples: American public law permits it; there is no estimate of the money; it was declined
• No response
The transformation of America from a provincial to a world power began in the 1890s. When Theodore Roosevelt took office, the first and most important steps had already been taken. By going to war with Spain and keeping the Philippines in 1898, America had joined the more ambitious industrialized world powers. With the Platt Amendment in 1901, Congress declared to the world its continued independence from European colonial ambitions. In his presidency Roosevelt supported both the expansion that had taken place and the limitations Congress imposed upon it, and never envisioned any further American expansion. He regarded the taking of Panama as a fulfillment of the most direct American strategic interest, as a way of denying Europe a foothold in Central America, and at the same time assuring full mobility for a two-ocean navy.

3 According to Richard Collin, what was one effect the Spanish-American War had on the United States?

Score of 1:
- States an effect the Spanish-American War had on the United States according to Richard Collin
  
  Examples: it made America a world power/the United States joined the more ambitious industrialized world powers; we kept the Philippines in 1898; with the Platt Amendment in 1901, Congress declared our continued independence from European colonial ambitions; Congress imposed some limitations on expansion; it made the United States realize that it needed more mobility for its two-ocean navy; it led to the taking of Panama which kept Europe out of Central America; it encouraged Roosevelt to take over Panama; it encouraged presidents to take actions that fulfilled American strategic interests

Score of 0:
- Incorrect response
  
  Examples: the United States went to war with Spain in 1898; Theodore Roosevelt took office; we were no longer a world power; never envisioned any further American expansion
- Vague response
  
  Examples: steps had been taken; America joined; a fulfillment of ambition
- No response
…Korea is a small country, thousands of miles away, but what is happening there is important to every American.

On Sunday, June 25th, Communist forces attacked the Republic of Korea.

This attack has made it clear, beyond all doubt, that the international Communist movement is willing to use armed invasion to conquer independent nations. An act of aggression such as this creates a very real danger to the security of all free nations.

The attack upon Korea was an outright breach of the peace and a violation of the Charter of the United Nations. By their actions in Korea, Communist leaders have demonstrated their contempt for the basic moral principles on which the United Nations is founded. This is a direct challenge to the efforts of the free nations to build the kind of world in which men can live in freedom and peace….

Furthermore, the fact that Communist forces have invaded Korea is a warning that there may be similar acts of aggression in other parts of the world. The free nations must be on their guard, more than ever before, against this kind of sneak attack….

Source: President Harry Truman, Radio and Television Address to the American People on the Situation in Korea, July 19, 1950

4 According to President Harry Truman, what is one reason the United States should be concerned about the situation in Korea?

Score of 1:
• States a reason the United States should be concerned about the situation in Korea according to President Harry Truman
  Examples: the attack on Korea made it clear that the international communist movement was willing to use armed invasion to conquer independent nations; the attack creates a danger to the security of all free nations; the attack was an outright breach of peace; it was a violation of the charter of the United Nations; communist leaders had demonstrated their contempt for the basic moral principles on which the United Nations was founded; the attack is a direct challenge to the efforts of free nations to build the kind of world in which men can live in freedom/peace; the communist invasion of Korea is a warning that there may be similar acts of aggression in other parts of the world; free nations must be on their guard against this kind of sneak attack

Score of 0:
• Incorrect response
  Examples: Korea is thousands of miles away; the international communist movement is willing to make peace; the United Nations supported the attack
• Vague response
  Examples: important; Korea is a small country; it has been made clear
• No response
...And so the true brutality of the war never really penetrated the American cultural consciousness. An estimated 33,000 Americans died in it. Another 105,000 were wounded. The South Koreans lost 415,000 killed and had 429,000 wounded. Both the Chinese and North Koreans were exceptionally secretive about their casualties, but American officials put their losses at roughly 1.5 million men killed. The Korean War momentarily turned the Cold War hot, heightening the already considerable (and mounting) tensions between the United States and the Communist world and deepening the chasm between the United States and Communist forces asserting themselves in Asia. Those tensions and divisions between the two sides in the bipolar struggle [taking opposing positions] grew even more serious after American miscalculations brought China into the war. When it was all over and an armed truce ensued, both sides claimed victory, though the final division of the country was no different from the one that had existed when the war began. But the United States was not the same: its strategic vision of Asia had changed, and its domestic political equation had been greatly altered....


5 According to David Halberstam, what were two effects the Korean War had on the United States?

Score of 2 or 1:
- Award 1 credit (up to a maximum of 2 credits) for each different effect of the Korean War on the United States according to David Halberstam
  
  Examples: an estimated 33,000 Americans died; 105,000 Americans were wounded; it turned the Cold War hot; it increased tensions between the United States and the communist world; it deepened the chasm between the United States and communist forces asserting themselves in Asia; tensions/divisions grew more serious when American miscalculations brought China into the war; our strategic vision of Asia changed; it altered our domestic political equation; despite the loss of thousands of American lives, the true brutality of the war was lost on Americans

Note: To receive maximum credit, two different effects of the Korean War on the United States must be stated. For example, it turned the Cold War hot and it increased tensions between the United States and the communist world is the same effect expressed in different words. In this and similar cases, award only one credit for this question.

Score of 0
- Incorrect response
  
  Examples: 415,000 South Koreans were killed; Chinese/North Koreans were secretive about their casualties; it ended tensions and divisions between the United States and the communist world; final division of Korea was the same as before
- Vague response
  
  Examples: it was not the same; it was miscalculated; the equation was altered; bipolar struggle
- No response
Document 6a

United States Troop Deployment in South Korea, 1950–2005

Source: Tim Kane, Heritage Foundation, 2006 (adapted)

Document 6b

…There is another subject that has to be addressed here today. When the guns fell silent, some asked what our forces in Korea had done for freedom, after all, for after all, the fighting began at the 38th parallel and ended at the 38th parallel. I submit to you today that looking back through the long lens of history, it is clear that the stand America took in Korea was indispensable to our ultimate victory in the cold war. Because we stood our ground in Korea, the Soviet Union drew a clear lesson that America would fight for freedom.…

Because we have continued to stand with our democratic ally South Korea, with 37,000 American troops standing watch on the border today [2000], just as we have since 1953, we have kept the peace. And because of all that, there is now a chance for a different future on the Korean Peninsula.…

Korea helped remind us of a few other lessons, too, that our people and all our rich diversity are our greatest strength, that a fully integrated military is our surest hope for victory, that our freedom and security depends on the freedom and security of others, and that we can never, ever, pull away from the rest of the world.…

Source: President Bill Clinton, Remarks on the Observance of the 50th Anniversary of the Korean War, June 25, 2000
6 Based on these documents, what were two effects the Korean War had on the United States?

Score of 2 or 1:
- Award 1 credit (up to a maximum of 2 credits) for each different effect the Korean War had on the United States based on these documents
  
  Examples: American troops continued to be deployed in South Korea/37,000 American troops continue to stand watch on the border/troops remained in Korea to keep the peace/United States troops remain deployed in South Korea; the stand America took in Korea was indispensable to our ultimate victory in the Cold War; we have continued to stand with our democratic ally South Korea; it reminded us that our integrated military is our surest hope for victory; it reminded us that our rich diversity is our greatest strength; it reminded us that our freedom/security depends on the freedom/security of others; it reminded us that we can never pull away from the rest of the world; we maintained 325,000 troops in Korea from 1950 to 1953; after 1953, United States troops were reduced to around 50,000

Note: To receive maximum credit, two different effects the Korean War had on the United States must be stated. For example, American troops continued to be deployed in South Korea and American troops remained in Korea to keep the peace are the same effect expressed in different words. In this and similar cases, award only one credit for this question.

Score of 0:
- Incorrect response
  
  Examples: it ended the Cold War; the United States and the Soviet Union became allies; the Korean Peninsula was united

- Vague response
  
  Examples: we have continued; Korea reminded us of lessons

- No response
Just two hours ago, allied air forces began an attack on military targets in Iraq and Kuwait. These attacks continue as I speak. Ground forces are not engaged.

This conflict started August 2nd when the dictator of Iraq invaded a small and helpless neighbor. Kuwait—a member of the Arab League and a member of the United Nations—was crushed; its people, brutalized. Five months ago, Saddam Hussein started this cruel war against Kuwait. Tonight, the battle has been joined.…

Our objectives are clear: Saddam Hussein’s forces will leave Kuwait. The legitimate government of Kuwait will be restored to its rightful place, and Kuwait will once again be free. Iraq will eventually comply with all relevant United Nations resolutions, and then, when peace is restored, it is our hope that Iraq will live as a peaceful and cooperative member of the family of nations, thus enhancing the security and stability of the Gulf.…

Source: President George H. W. Bush, Address to the Nation Announcing Allied Military Action in the Persian Gulf, January 16, 1991 (adapted)

7 According to President George H. W. Bush, what is one reason the United States began air strikes in Iraq in January of 1991?

Score of 1:
• States a reason the United States began air strikes in Iraq in January of 1991 according to President George H. W. Bush
  Examples: the dictator of Iraq had invaded a small and helpless neighbor/Kuwait; Kuwait was crushed; Kuwait’s people were brutalized; to make Saddam Hussein’s forces leave Kuwait; to restore the legitimate government of Kuwait/to free Kuwait; to make Iraq comply with all relevant United Nations resolutions; to restore peace in the Gulf region; to enhance the security/stability of the Gulf; to encourage Iraq to live as a peaceful and cooperative member of the family of nations

Score of 0:
• Incorrect response
  Examples: Kuwait invaded Iraq; to restore the legitimate government of Iraq; Saddam Hussein was the leader of Kuwait; Iraq’s people were brutalized
• Vague response
  Examples: the conflict started; the objectives are clear; it is the hope; to enhance the Gulf; to continue the attacks
• No response
...As a result of servicewomen's performance during Operation Desert Storm, the last of the laws restricting women's service were lifted by the middle of the decade. In 1992, Congress repealed the restriction banning servicewomen from flying in aircraft engaged in combat missions. In 1993, they lifted the restriction banning women from serving aboard combat vessels. By the turn of this [21st] century, women comprised almost 14 percent of active military duty personnel and were reaching the highest levels of the military....

While issues of equal opportunity for women in the military still remained, the distance between the servicewomen of 1999 and the Army nurses of 1901 who served their country before they could even vote was staggering....

Source: Women in Military Service for America Memorial Foundation

8 Based on these documents, what were two effects the Persian Gulf War had on American society?

Score of 2 or 1:

- Award 1 credit (up to a maximum of 2 credits) for each different effect the Persian Gulf War had on American society based on these documents

  Examples: the last of laws restricting women’s service in the military were lifted in the 1990s; in 1992, Congress repealed the restriction banning servicewomen from flying in aircraft engaged in combat missions; in 1993, Congress lifted the restriction banning women from serving aboard combat vessels; the number of women in active military duty personnel increased; women are able to reach the highest levels of the military; more opportunities for women in the military; veterans have reported a number of physical/mental health problems; rates of PTSD stemming from the war are higher among Persian Gulf vets/PTSD

Note: To receive maximum credit, two different effects the Persian Gulf War had on American society must be stated. For example, veterans have reported a number of health problems and veterans have reported a number of physical/mental problems are the same effect expressed in different words. In this and similar cases, award only one credit for this question.

Score of 0:

- Incorrect response

  Examples: laws restricted women’s service; servicewomen could not fly aircraft; veterans not deployed in the Persian Gulf have higher rates of PTSD; veterans were not deployed

- Vague response

  Examples: rates are higher; laws restricted service; military duty

- No response
The undefeated Saddam Hussein of 1991

...The 2003 U.S. invasion and occupation of Iraq can’t be viewed in isolation. The chain of events began more than a decade earlier with the botched close of the 1991 [Persian] Gulf War and then it continued in the U.S. effort to contain Saddam Hussein in the years that followed. “I don’t think you can understand how OIF”—the abbreviation for Operation Iraqi Freedom, the U.S. military’s term for the 2003 invasion and occupation of Iraq—“without understanding the end of the ’91 war, especially the distrust of Americans” [by Iraqis] that resulted, said Army Reserve Maj. Michael Eisenstadt, an intelligence officer who in civilian life is an expert on Middle Eastern security issues.

The seeds of the second president Bush’s decision to invade [in 2003] were planted by the unfinished nature of the 1991 war, in which the U.S. military expelled Iraq from Kuwait but ended the fighting prematurely and sloppily, without due consideration by the first president Bush and his advisors of what end state they wished to achieve. In February 1991, President Bush gave speeches that encouraged Iraqis “to take matters into their own hands and force Saddam Hussein the dictator to step aside.” U.S. Air Force aircraft dropped leaflets on fielded Iraqi units urging them to rebel. On March 1, Iraqi army units in Basra began to do just that....


9 According to Thomas E. Ricks, what was one effect the 1991 Persian Gulf War had on the United States?

Score of 1:
- States an effect the 1991 Persian Gulf War had on the United States according to Thomas E. Ricks
  
  *Examples:* the United States continued its effort to contain Saddam Hussein; it began a chain of events that led to the United States invasion/occupation of Iraq in 2003; the end of the 1991 war helped lead to Operation Iraqi Freedom because the United States ended the fighting prematurely/sloppily; the United States lost credibility with the Iraqi people who opposed Saddam Hussein; it got us into another war; some thought the United States botched the end of the war, causing problems with Iraq to continue

Score of 0:
- Incorrect response
  *Examples:* Kuwait was expelled from Iraq; the United States invaded Kuwait in 2003; Saddam Hussein became a United States ally
- Vague response
  *Examples:* a chain of events; seeds were planted; the view is isolated; President Bush made speeches; the Air Force dropped leaflets; it was botched; without consideration of an end game; no end state
- No response
United States History and Government
Content-Specific Rubric
Document-Based Essay
June 2016

Historical Context: Throughout the history of the United States, wars have been fought to protect national security and promote the national interest. These wars have affected the United States and American society in many different ways. These wars include the Spanish-American War (1898), the Korean War (1950–1953), and the Persian Gulf War (1991).

Task: Select two wars mentioned in the historical context and for each
• Describe the historical circumstances that led to United States involvement in the war
• Discuss the effects of the war on the United States and/or on American society

Scoring Notes:

1. This document-based question has a minimum of six components (discussing the historical circumstances that led to United States involvement in each of two wars and at least two effects of each war on the United States and/or on American society).
2. The effects of the war may be on the United States, on American society, or on both the United States and American society.
3. The effects of the war on the United States or on American society may be immediate or long term.
4. Although the facts and details will vary, the effects of the war may be the same for both wars, e.g., troops remained in Korea after the Korean War and troops remained in Saudi Arabia after the Persian Gulf War to enforce a no-fly zone in Iraq.
5. The effects of the war may be discussed from a variety of perspectives as long as the position taken is supported by accurate historical facts and examples.
6. Only two wars should be chosen from the historical context. If three wars are addressed, only the first two wars may be scored.
7. For the purposes of meeting the criteria of using at least four documents in the response, documents 2a, 2b, 6a, 6b, 8a, and 8b may be considered as separate documents if the response uses specific separate facts from each document.

All sample student essays in this rating guide are presented in the same cursive font while preserving actual student work, including errors. This will ensure that the sample essays are easier for raters to read and use as scoring aids.

Raters should continue to disregard the quality of a student’s handwriting in scoring examination papers and focus on how well the student has accomplished the task. The content-specific rubric should be applied holistically in determining the level of a student’s response.
Score of 5:
- Thoroughly develops all aspects of the task evenly and in depth by describing the historical circumstances that led to United States involvement in each of two wars and discussing at least two effects of each war on the United States or on American society
- Is more analytical than descriptive (analyzes, evaluates, and/or creates* information), e.g., Spanish-American War: connects the long-term strategic and economic interest in Cuba and the yellow journalism coverage of events in Cuba to the postwar challenges of being a colonial power, the national debate over the annexation of the Philippines, and a reappraisal of United States expansionist policies after the Philippine American War; Korean War: connects the reasons the United States made the decision to apply the containment doctrine in Korea and President Harry Truman’s decision to fight a limited war to the war ending in an armed truce that provoked a national debate over global containment and led to a continuing American troop presence to defend South Korea and the eventual problem of a potential attack by a nuclear-armed North Korea
- Incorporates relevant information from at least four documents (see Key Ideas Chart)
- Incorporates substantial relevant outside information related to wars that protect national security and promote the national interest (see Outside Information Chart)
- Richly supports the theme with many relevant facts, examples, and details, e.g., Spanish-American War: Hearst; Pulitzer; conditions in Cuba; USS Maine; President William McKinley; Treaty of Paris of 1898; Korean War: attack on Republic of Korea by communist forces; violation of United Nations charter; Cold War; 38th parallel; reasons for police action; intervention by China; military stalemate; firing of General Douglas MacArthur
- Demonstrates a logical and clear plan of organization; includes an introduction and a conclusion that are beyond a restatement of the theme

Score of 4:
- Develops all aspects of the task but may do so somewhat unevenly by discussing one war more thoroughly than the second war or by discussing one aspect of the task less thoroughly than the other aspects of the task
- Is both descriptive and analytical (applies, analyzes, evaluates, and/or creates* information), e.g., Spanish-American War: discusses the influence of yellow journalism on public opinion, the growing support for the war, the shift from the traditional role of the United States as a regional power to world power status, and the challenges of maintaining a naval presence in Asia; Korean War: discusses the role the policy of containment played in President Harry Truman’s decision to request United Nations support for military action to defend South Korea and how the stalemate of a limited war undermined President Truman’s popularity and how the maintenance of the 38th parallel border has required a long-term military commitment to defend South Korea from communist North Korea
- Incorporates relevant information from at least four documents
- Incorporates relevant outside information
- Supports the theme with relevant facts, examples, and details
- Demonstrates a logical and clear plan of organization; includes an introduction and a conclusion that are beyond a restatement of the theme
Score of 3:
• Develops all aspects of the task with little depth or develops at least four aspects of the task in some depth
• Is more descriptive than analytical (applies, may analyze and/or evaluate information)
• Incorporates some relevant information from some of the documents
• Incorporates limited relevant outside information
• Includes some relevant facts, examples, and details; may include some minor inaccuracies
• Demonstrates a satisfactory plan of organization; includes an introduction and a conclusion that may be a restatement of the theme

Note: If all aspects of the task have been developed evenly and in depth for one war and if the response meets most of the other Level 5 criteria, the overall response may be a Level 3 paper.

Score of 2:
• Minimally develops all aspects of the task or develops at least three aspects of the task in some depth
• Is primarily descriptive; may include faulty, weak, or isolated application or analysis
• Incorporates limited relevant information from the documents or consists primarily of relevant information copied from the documents
• Presents little or no relevant outside information
• Includes few relevant facts, examples, and details; may include some inaccuracies
• Demonstrates a general plan of organization; may lack focus; may contain digressions; may not clearly identify which aspect of the task is being addressed; may lack an introduction and/or a conclusion

Score of 1:
• Minimally develops some aspects of the task
• Is descriptive; may lack understanding, application, or analysis
• Makes vague, unclear references to the documents or consists primarily of relevant and irrelevant information copied from the documents
• Presents no relevant outside information
• Includes few relevant facts, examples, or details; may include inaccuracies
• May demonstrate a weakness in organization; may lack focus; may contain digressions; may not clearly identify which aspect of the task is being addressed; may lack an introduction and/or a conclusion

Score of 0:
Fails to develop the task or may only refer to the theme in a general way; OR includes no relevant facts, examples, or details; OR includes only the historical context and/or task as copied from the test booklet; OR includes only entire documents copied from the test booklet; OR is illegible; OR is a blank paper

*The term create as used by Anderson/Krathwohl, et al. in their 2001 revision of Bloom’s Taxonomy of Educational Objectives refers to the highest level of the cognitive domain. This usage of create is similar to Bloom’s use of the term synthesis. Creating implies an insightful reorganization of information into a new pattern or whole. While a Level 5 paper will contain analysis and/or evaluation of information, a very strong paper may also include examples of creating information as defined by Anderson and Krathwohl.
**Spanish-American War**

*Key Ideas from Documents 1-3*

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<th>Historical Circumstances</th>
<th>Effects of the War on the United States</th>
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<td>Duty to defend neighbor even though Cuba belongs to another nation</td>
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<td>Need for protection and indemnity for life and property of American citizens in Cuba</td>
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<td>Need to end conditions that deprived American citizens of legal protection</td>
<td>Negative effects of Philippine annexation (distance from the United States, lack of sympathy with our history or our customs, resentment of our attempt to overthrow their declaration of independence, burden on our military and naval strength, cost of subduing and keeping Philippine people in subjection)</td>
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<td>Destruction of property</td>
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</tr>
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<td>Devastation of island</td>
<td>Declaration of continued independence from European colonial ambitions with Platt Amendment</td>
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<tr>
<td>Injuries to commerce, trade, and business of Americans</td>
<td>Support by Theodore Roosevelt for expansion and for the limitations imposed by Congress</td>
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<td>Exhaustion of United States efforts to relieve intolerable conditions in Cuba</td>
<td>Fulfillment of American strategic interest with taking of Panama</td>
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<td><strong>Doc 2</strong>—Tradition of expansion (Texas, Louisiana, Alaska, Florida, California, Hawaii, Puerto Rico)</td>
<td>Assurance of full mobility for two-ocean navy</td>
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**Relevant Outside Information**

(This list is not all-inclusive.)

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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Long-term interest in Cuba for strategic reasons</td>
<td>Defeat of Spanish fleet by United States Pacific fleet in the Philippines</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sympathy for Cubans struggling for independence from Spain although neutrality initially declared</td>
<td>Small percentage of American casualties in battle; most casualties due to other circumstances (diseases, unsanitary conditions, heat)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Humanitarian concerns about reconcentration camps of Cuban civilians</td>
<td>Influence on decision to annex Hawaii</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sensational reports of Cuban events by American press (Pulitzer, Hearst, yellow journalism)</td>
<td>Establishment of United States protectorate over Cuba</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public anger over publication of De Lôme letter</td>
<td>Details about Platt Amendment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loss of American lives in explosion of USS Maine</td>
<td>Placement of Puerto Rico and Guam under United States control as a result of Treaty of Paris of 1898 (strategic importance)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Republican Party and business interests in favor of war</td>
<td>Increased economic interest in Asia (Open Door Notes)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of political and economic realities on McKinley’s decision to request a declaration of war</td>
<td>Philippine-American War</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Idealism of Teller Amendment</td>
<td>Imperialism becoming an issue in 1900 election</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Commitment to a more aggressive foreign policy (Roosevelt Corollary, Big Stick Policy)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Korean War

**Key Ideas from Documents 4-6**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Historical Circumstances</th>
<th>Effects of the War on the United States</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Doc 4</strong>—Attack on Republic of Korea by communist forces</td>
<td><strong>Doc 5</strong>—Lack of effect on American cultural consciousness despite brutality of war</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Willingness of international communist movement to use armed invasion to conquer independent nations</td>
<td>Death of estimated 33,000 Americans in war</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Danger to security of all free nations</td>
<td>Wounding of 105,000 Americans</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outright breach of peace and violation of United Nations Charter</td>
<td>Increase of tensions between the United States and communist world</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contempt for United Nations founding and its moral principles</td>
<td>Increase in the division between the United States and communist forces in Asia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Direct challenge to efforts of free nations to build free, peaceful world</td>
<td>Increase in tensions with China’s entrance in war as result of American miscalculations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Warning of potential for similar acts of aggression</td>
<td>Claim of victory by both sides with armed truce</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Doc 5**—Lack of effect on American cultural consciousness despite brutality of war

- Death of estimated 33,000 Americans in war
- Wounding of 105,000 Americans
- Increase of tensions between the United States and communist world
- Increase in the division between the United States and communist forces in Asia
- Increase in tensions with China’s entrance in war as result of American miscalculations
- Claim of victory by both sides with armed truce
- Final division of country same as before the war
- Change in United States strategic vision of Asia
- Altering of the domestic political equation of the United States


- America’s stand in Korea indispensable to its ultimate victory in Cold War (Soviet Union aware that United States would fight for freedom)
- Continued support for democratic ally, South Korea (United States troops remain)
- Importance of a fully integrated military
- Reminder that United States freedom and security depends on that of others
- Lesson that United States must continue involvement in world affairs

### Relevant Outside Information

(This list is not all-inclusive.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Historical Circumstances</th>
<th>Effects of the War on the United States</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Japanese occupation of Korea, 1910–1945</td>
<td>Expansion of power of commander in chief (no congressional declaration of war)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Division of Korea at 38th parallel after World War II</td>
<td>Disillusionment over many casualties and setbacks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Occupation of South Korea by United States and of North Korea by Soviet Union after World War II</td>
<td>Public support for shift in war objectives from containment to reunification</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United Nations Security Council resolution to send troops to defend South Korea</td>
<td>Affirmation of civilian control over the military</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Debate over limited war versus total war</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Increased cost of global containment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Increased fear of domestic communist influence (McCarthyism)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Military stalemate and election of Eisenhower</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Support for civil rights movement from African American war veterans</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Increased United States interest in Southeast Asia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Permanent troop placement along DMZ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Potential nuclear threat from North Korea today</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Key Ideas from Documents 7-9

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Historical Circumstances</th>
<th>Effects of the War on the United States</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Doc 7</strong>—Invasion of Kuwait by dictator of Iraq, Saddam Hussein</td>
<td><strong>Doc 7</strong>—Attack on military targets in Iraq and Kuwait by allied air forces, including United States</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kuwait’s membership in the Arab League and in the United Nations</td>
<td><strong>Doc 8</strong>—Repeal of restrictions banning servicewomen from flying in aircraft engaged in combat missions or from serving aboard combat vessels</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Defeat of Kuwait by Iraq</td>
<td>Women becoming almost 14% of active military duty personnel by turn of century</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brutalization of Kuwait’s people</td>
<td>Women now able to reach highest levels of the military</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Objective to get Saddam Hussein’s forces to leave Kuwait and to restore the legitimate government and freedom to Kuwait</td>
<td>Continuation of equal opportunity issues for women in military</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goal to enhance stability and security of Gulf</td>
<td>Physical and mental health problems of veterans</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Doc 8**—Repeal of restrictions banning servicewomen from flying in aircraft engaged in combat missions or from serving aboard combat vessels

**Doc 9**—Distrust of Americans by Iraqis as result of 1991 war

- Continuation of United States efforts to contain Saddam Hussein after 1991 war
- Seeds planted for Operation Iraqi Freedom—United States invasion and occupation of Iraq in 2003

### Relevant Outside Information

*(This list is not all-inclusive.)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Historical Circumstances</th>
<th>Effects of the War on the United States</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Negative impact of long war with Iran on Iraq’s financial situation</td>
<td>Criticism of sanitized press coverage by American media</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>World’s dependence on Middle Eastern oil reserves</td>
<td>Threat to oil reserves</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United States effort to protect Saudi Arabia from potential Iraqi aggression</td>
<td>Increased patriotism and support for veterans</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Support for United Nations coalition force from more than 30 nations</td>
<td>Effect of chemical weapons/Gulf War syndrome</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Economic and financial sanctions against Iraq</td>
<td>End of the Vietnam syndrome</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>President George H. W. Bush’s 1990 ultimatum to Iraq</td>
<td>Maintaining no-fly zones over Iraq from bases in Saudi Arabia and Turkey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saddam Hussein’s mistreatment of Kurds and other ethnic minorities</td>
<td>Resentment over continued United States presence in Middle East helping to fuel continued rise of Islamic fundamentalism and terrorist threats</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potential impact of Iraqi events on Israel, a long-term ally of the United States</td>
<td>Continued embargo against Iraq</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Hussein’s lack of cooperation with United Nations weapons inspectors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Details about Operation Iraqi Freedom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Delay in President Obama’s timetable for troop withdrawal over complicated Iraqi political, economic, and religious issues</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Reintroduction of United States troops into Iraq to fight threats from ISIS</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Two wars fought by the United States in the twentieth century are the Korean War, which began in 1950, and the Persian Gulf War in 1991. The Korean War was fought in an effort to keep communist forces out of the Republic of South Korea. The Persian Gulf War was fought by a coalition of United Nation forces, led by the United States, in an attempt to liberate Kuwait from Iraqi forces. Both wars were somewhat flawed attempts at restoring peace and had both positive and negative effects on Americans and American society.

After World War II ended in 1945, the US and the Soviet Union became super powers locked in a cold war of ideological differences. The Soviet Union was a communist nation that began to spread its control over other small countries in Eastern Europe. In 1950, in light of China becoming a communist nation and the Soviet success in developing an atomic bomb the US issued NSC-68 which recommended the US should increase military spending as a protection against aggressive communist forces as a fear of communism was spreading across the US. According to President Harry Truman, North Korean communist forces invaded South Korea on June 25, 1950. President Truman stated the U.S. should be concerned about this act of aggression and should beware of future acts of aggression by communist forces. Appeasement was not a choice but a limited war with a limited objective of reestablishing the 38th parallel was. The Korean War, although never declared a war by the Congress, was organized as a United Nations police action after President Truman made a strong appeal on behalf of “moral principles” to the Security Council. The Korean War ended in 1953 at almost the same exact point where it started, the divide at the 38th parallel after a shift in military
strategy to reunify Korea failed. The U.S. in 3 years of a United Nations police action that was primarily their responsibility lost an estimated 33,000 men, and another 105,000 were wounded according to David Halbersam. Another 415,000 South Koreans were killed and an estimated 1.5 million North Korean and Chinese were killed. The Korean War could be seen by some critics as a loss for the United States, but in a time when conformity was an essential part of American society and when communism was so feared, little was questioned about the U.S. actions in Korea. However, with the intervention of the Chinese and disagreements between the President and General MacArthur, Americans got tired of a war that went on too long with too much loss of life. Truman’s decision to accept the frustrating stalemate of a limited war was questioned by more and more people. Also, tensions between the U.S. and other communist nations such as China grew strengthening the cold war. Because the war ended without victory, there were still 37,000 Americans monitoring the 38th parallel 50 years after the war began according to President Bill Clinton. Also, the Heritage foundation has shown that there continued no less than 33,000 troops in Korea, as late as 2005. U.S. troops continue to be deployed and tensions between the U.S. and North Korea have worsened as it has developed nuclear weapons and threatens peace in Asia.

The United Nations played a role in another war that included U.S. forces, Operation Desert Storm in 1991. According to President George H. W. Bush, Iraqi forces, led by Saddam Hussein attacked its neighbor Kuwait on August 2, 1990 in violation of international law. The main reason for Saddam’s actions is that Kuwait is a country
Anchor Paper – Document-Based Essay—Level 5 – A

with a weak military and an abundance of oil. Iraq had often complained that Kuwait was a stolen part of Iraq and that Kuwait’s oil really belonged to Iraq. When Iraq invaded Kuwait, the U.S. immediately sent planes and troops to Saudi Arabia to keep Saddam from going any further. Kuwait is a member of the United Nations, so allied forces formed a coalition led by the U.S. against Iraq. On January 16, 1991, the attack began with only massive airstrikes, but once Iraq’s forces were badly hurt, the coalition deployed its ground forces. The war ended quickly with far fewer American losses than in Korea and independence was restored in Kuwait. Our objective seemed to be achieved. The quick victory led to renewed pride in the military and seemed to put the uncertainty caused by the failure in Vietnam to rest. This was the first major victory since WWII and at first it seemed complete. The Persian Gulf war had a mainly positive influence on the U.S. armed service and American society. According to the “women in military service for America Memorial Foundation,” in 1992 restrictions prohibiting women from aircrafts engaged in combat missions were lifted. In 1993 the restrictions banning women from serving on combat vessels were lifted. The lifting of these restrictions on serving in the military greatly increased participation of women in the U.S. military and provided more opportunities for their advancement. The Persian Gulf war and Operation Iraqi Freedom were important transitions to today’s military in which all combat jobs are open to women. Although this was a brief war, Persian Gulf veterans were found to have high levels of Post Traumatic Stress Disorder according to Matthew Tull. This finding was shocking because the war was so brief and loss of coalition life was very low. The troops did not
encounter death camps like WWII war soldiers in Europe and unlike the Korean War it did “penetrate the American cultural consciousness”. However this finding about the Persian Gulf war shows that war is war no matter what society makes it out to be. The Persian Gulf war had a sloppy finish. The coalition did not remove Saddam Hussein from power which meant he could ignore United Nations sanctions and refuse to cooperate with United Nations weapons inspectors. Instead the United States urged Iraqis to remove him. Thomas Ricks stated that President Bush urging Iraqis to take matters into their own hands led to great distrust and helped lead to the US invasion and occupation of Iraq in 2003. Numerous reasons were given for the invasion but nobody knows which is more accurate. Is it because Hussein supposedly had weapons of mass destruction. (he didn’t) or Al-Qaeda forces were in Iraq (they didn’t seem to be)? Neither of these claims seemed to justify expanding the War on Terror, which was a response to the very real and terrible 9/11 attacks on the U.S. The U.S. has fought a War on Terror in the middle-east for 12 years, with increasing objection from Americans at home. Public opinion has turned against a military action that seems unending and has taken the lives of too many, just like Korea. The Korean War ended where it began, and to this day tensions at the 38th parallel remain. The US not removing Saddam Hussein out of power at the end of the Persian Gulf war led to the US invading Iraq again in 2003. To this day U.S. forces are still in Korea and the Middle East with no sign of a future withdrawal of troops. Both wars had some success and some failure. We saved South Korea and we saved Kuwait, but we could not unify Korea and are concerned about
Anchor Paper – Document-Based Essay—Level 5 – A

North Korea’s nuclear force. We have had to return to Iraq and now fight a new enemy, ISIS.

Anchor Level 5-A

The response:
• Thoroughly develops all aspects of the task evenly and in depth for the Korean War and the Persian Gulf War
• Is more analytical than descriptive (Korean War: organized as United Nations police action; ended at almost same exact point where it started after a shift in military strategy to reunify Korea failed; could be seen as a loss by some critics but communism was so feared, little questioned United States actions in Korea; tensions between United States and other communist nations such as China grew, strengthening the Cold War; Persian Gulf War: coalition led by United States in a military action supported by United Nations; attack began with only massive airstrikes but once Iraq’s forces were badly hurt, coalition ground forces were deployed; war ended quickly with far fewer American losses than Korea; lifting of restrictions prohibiting women from engaging in combat missions greatly increased participation of women in military; veterans found to have high levels of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder; coalition did not remove Saddam Hussein from power which meant he could ignore United Nations sanctions and refuse to cooperate with United Nations weapons inspectors)
• Incorporates relevant information from documents 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9
• Incorporates substantial relevant outside information (Korean War: appeasement not a choice; limited war with limited objective of reestablishing 38th parallel; never a declared war by United States Congress; with intervention of Chinese and disagreements between President and General MacArthur, Americans got tired of a war that went on too long; Truman’s decision to accept the frustrating stalemate of a limited war questioned; United States troops continue to be deployed; tensions between United States and North Korea worsened as North Korea developed nuclear weapons and threatened peace in Asia; Persian Gulf War: Kuwait has a weak military and an abundance of oil; Iraq had often complained that Kuwait was a stolen part of Iraq and that Kuwait’s oil really belonged to Iraq; when Iraq invaded Kuwait, the United States immediately sent planes and troops to Saudi Arabia to keep Saddam from going any further; quick victory led to renewed pride in the military and seemed to put the uncertainty caused by the failure in Vietnam to rest; neither claim seemed to justify expanding the War on Terror)
• Richly supports the theme with many relevant facts, examples, and details (Korean War: United States lost estimated 33,000 men, 105,000 wounded; 415,000 South Koreans killed; estimated 1.5 million North Koreans and Chinese killed; 37,000 American troops still monitoring 38th parallel; Persian Gulf War: Operation Desert Storm; dictator of Iraq; independence restored in Kuwait; 9/11 attack on United States; invasion of Iraq in 2003; ISIS)
• Demonstrates a logical and clear plan of organization; includes an introduction that states both the Korean War and the Persian Gulf War were somewhat flawed attempts to restore peace and a conclusion that analyzes the successes and failures of both wars

Conclusion: Overall, the response fits the criteria for Level 5. An analytic discussion of historical circumstances is well supported by substantive relevant details. A thoughtful case is made as to why each war was a somewhat flawed endeavor with long-lasting negative impacts.
Since its inception, America has gone to war for many reasons. The main ideas behind the wars, though, can sometimes be traced back to the desires for territory and fights for freedom, or in some cases, both. The Spanish American War of 1898 and the Korean War from 1950–1953 are prime examples of the fights for freedom that had very different outcomes. As a result of each of the wars, the US became even more globally involved than it already had been.

Though Manifest Destiny was technically completed under Polk in the 1840s after the Mexican American War, some Americans were still hungry for more land. Like its European counterparts, the US was now looking beyond its continental borders for new territory. The industrial revolution of the 1800s had increased the demand for raw materials, new markets, and investments so businessmen had invested money in the rich land in Spanish-owned Cuba and others had done the same in Hawaii. Additionally, the sensationalizing of Spanish atrocities in Cuba by yellow journalists like Hearst and Pulitzer helped change President McKinley’s mind about war and drew increased public support and congressional approval for a war against Spain (Doc 1). This was especially true once the USS Maine sank in Havana Harbor, killing over 200 sailors. The public blamed Spain, inflamed by news reports and claims by the US Navy itself. In actuality, the US was not just concerned about protecting and advancing its economic interests but was also concerned about the humanitarian crisis caused by “Butcher” Weyler in a country only 90 miles away. As a result of our victory in the war, Cuba got its independence from Spain. The US also acquired the land expansionists desired with the addition of the Philippines, territory owned by the defeated Spanish, and the annexation of Hawaii during
the war and protected their economic interests as well. The US officially became an imperialistic power (Doc 3). However, there were some unforeseen issues with governing a foreign population (Doc 2). In Cuba, the Platt amendment and, in the Philippines and Puerto Rico, the Insular cases gave the US control over their economies and governments. When the US rejected Filipino demands for independence a 3-year-long revolution, led by Emilio Aguinaldo, broke out in the Philippines. As a result, some Americans (like influential writer Mark Twain and William Jennings Bryan) became staunch anti-imperialists, while others (like Theodore Roosevelt and Henry Cabot Lodge) supported America’s expansion of power in a divisive argument that affected America for many years.

Over fifty years later, the US was experiencing a different political climate, one concerned primarily with communism and how to stop it from spreading. As the US emerged from WWII, it entered into the Cold War, a nearly half-century long, armed standoff with the Soviet Union. Harry Truman, the first Cold War president, promoted containment in his namesake doctrine even asking Congress for money to give to Turkey and Greece to stave off communist forces. US attention was originally focused on keeping communism away from Europe (Marshall Plan, NATO) but it also became an issue in Asia.

So, when the communist North Koreans invaded South Korea, the US foreign policy of containment indicated that American troops could be deployed to fight for democracy. This was consistent with the key lesson learned from the start of WWII in Europe (appeasement of aggression would only lead to more aggression). Truman had learned this lesson as well as anyone and ordered troops to help defend South Korea as part of a United Nations action. Nearly 350,000 troops
fought each year of the 3-year conflict. After pushing the North-Koreans back and seeming to be near victory, the US went too far and China intervened. The war became a bloody fight with each side winning small gains only to lose them again. This limited war made Truman very unpopular and was finally ended with a ceasefire by President Eisenhower in 1953. Since then American troops have remained to help ensure the safety of South Korea from their still-communist neighbors (Doc 6). Since the 38th parallel remains the dividing line, the South has continued to worry about their security. It was at this point, at the start of the Korean War that the US recognized that it could never bow out of world affairs, especially because Truman believed that more communist invasions were possible. (Doc 4). Presidents who followed Truman (Eisenhower, Kennedy, and Johnson) would have their own containment problems elsewhere, especially in Southeast Asia. After we helped South Korea these presidents made later commitments to stop communism in Southeast Asia. This expansion is one of the biggest effects of the Korean War on the US because it started a difficult and costly path to our ultimate defeat in Vietnam. America has not yet stepped off of the world stage.

In summary, the Spanish American War and the Korean War put the US on display as a world power, by entering into conflicts based on its ideologies and self-interests. Still today, the effects of these wars on America continue, with its continued presence in Puerto Rico and Guam. (gained from the Spanish American War), South Korea, and now over a decade spent in Iraq and Afghanistan.
The response:
• Thoroughly develops all aspects of the task evenly and in depth for the Spanish-American War and the Korean War
• Is more analytical than descriptive (Spanish-American War: United States looking beyond its continental borders for new territory; businessmen had invested money in the rich land in Spanish-owned Cuba and others had done the same in Hawaii; United States concerned about protecting and advancing economic interests; Cuba gained independence from Spain; United States became imperialistic power; United States rejected Filipino demands for independence; Korean War: United States experiencing a political climate concerned with communism and how to stop it from spreading; key lesson learned from the start of WWII in Europe was that appeasement of aggression would only lead to more aggression; Truman ordered troops to help defend South Korea as part of United Nations action; nearly 350,000 American troops fought in three-year conflict; after seeming to be near victory, the United States went too far and China intervened; American troops have remained in South Korea to help ensure South Korea’s safety from their communist neighbors)
• Incorporates relevant information from documents 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6
• Incorporates substantial relevant outside information (Spanish-American War: Manifest Destiny technically completed under Polk after Mexican American War; sensationalizing of Spanish atrocities in Cuba by yellow journalists changed President McKinley’s mind about war and drew increased public support and congressional approval for war against Spain; Butcher Weyler caused a humanitarian crisis in a country only 90 miles away; the Platt Amendment and Insular Cases gave United States control over Cuban, Philippine, and Puerto Rican economies and governments; Emilio Aguinaldo led a three-year revolution in the Philippines; Korean War: Harry Truman promoted containment in his namesake doctrine asking Congress for money to give to Turkey and Greece; United States attention originally focused on keeping communism away from Europe, but became issue in Asia; limited war made Truman very unpopular; presidents who followed Truman would have their own containment problems; later commitments to stop communism in Southeast Asia)
• Richly supports the theme with many relevant facts, examples, and details (Spanish-American War: Hearst and Pulitzer; USS Maine; Havana Harbor; Mark Twain; William Jennings Bryan; Theodore Roosevelt; Henry Cabot Lodge; Korean War: Cold War; Marshall Plan; NATO; 38th parallel as dividing line; Eisenhower, Kennedy, Johnson; Vietnam)
• Demonstrates a logical and clear plan of organization; includes an introduction and a conclusion that are somewhat beyond a restatement of the theme

Conclusion: Overall, the response fits the criteria for Level 5. Historical details and well-placed analytic statements support effective document usage. A thorough discussion of the effects of both wars demonstrates a good understanding that wars create unforeseen postwar issues and commitments with continuing effects on the United States.
Given the taxing, brutal nature of wars, it is no surprise that the United States has generally gotten involved in Foreign conflicts in the past only when she felt she had legitimate reasons. In some cases, self-interest and the desire to protect the U.S. economy were the prime motivations for war. Two such instances were the Spanish American war and the Persian Gulf war. In both conflicts, the United States became involved in response to human rights abuses and also in efforts to protect U.S. economic interests. The end result was that the United States was drastically altered, whether on the domestic side or in the realm of world affairs.

The Spanish-American war, initiated in 1898 under the presidency of William McKinley, is an early example of the United States becoming involved in a war to promote her economic interests. Though some of the publicly proclaimed motives for the war seemed to suggest that a prime reason for U.S. involvement was a desire to help the Cuban peoples there were also other reasons for declaring war. Putting an end to human rights abuses of the Spanish against the Cuban people was important because bad conditions in barbed-wire camps were killing thousands. Bloodshed, starvation, and horrible miseries were being reported in the yellow press. They were also reporting stories of ongoing devastation of property owned by Americans and the difficulties faced by American businessmen. (Document 1) These circumstances were also considered legitimate reasons to go to war especially at a time when many Americans thought it was important to establish and strengthen a U.S. economic presence in the Caribbean.

After defeating the Spanish, the government ignored the Teller Amendment opening the door for the introduction of the Platt
Amendment (1901), so that American interests would be protected in Cuba. These advantages came at a cost. Through the Spanish-American war, the United States acquired the Phillipines and Guam and thus the United States was elevated, according to Richard H. Collin, to the status of an “ambitious industrialized” world power (Doc. 2).

Unfortunately, the transformation of the United States into an imperializing world power did have major ramifications. Although becoming an imperial power may sound alluring, the United States’ taking over the Phillipines would ultimately have some devastating effects. Namely, the United States came to be perceived as an unwanted Foreign power by the filipino people, who wanted their independence. This circumstance would help to encourage the Filipino people to rebel against the U.S. after the war. The ensuing conflict would cost more in military strength and American lives than the Spanish-American war did while also taking the lives of many thousands of Filipinos. Although the U.S. built hospitals and schools in the Philippines after the conflict and finally gave them independence after WWII, this unfortunate occurrence cannot be forgotten.

Another example of a war that was motivated in part by a desire to protect U.S. economic interests is the Persian Gulf war of 1991. This conflict, like the Spanish-American war was also seen as a mission to provide relief to the “brutalized” people of a foreign country. In violation of international law, Saddam Hussein invaded Kuwait which was a major oil exporter to United States allies. Although George H.W. Bush does not specifically mention oil in his address, he does imply that success in this war will promote U.S. economic interests in
the Middle East by “enhancing the security and stability” of the region (Doc. 7). President Bush hoped that an effective response to the brutal invasion of Kuwait by Iraqi forces could protect oil supplies and create a secure environment in the historically unstable area. That being said, the immediate result of the war was not as desirable as George H.W. Bush had hoped. Although the Saudi Kingdom was protected through the conflict, Saddam Hussein was not removed from his position of power. The “unfinished” nature of this conflict would thus help encourage the later development of the highly expensive and long war in Iraq (Doc. 9). Although President Obama finally withdrew troops from Iraq, other extremist groups in Iraq have meant that some American soldiers and advisors have returned and are still there more than 10 years after the 2003 invasion. Still, the Persian Gulf war did have some positive effects on American society particularly for women. It encouraged the removal of laws restricting women’s participation in the military that had been present throughout all of American history (Doc. 8a). Americans were proud of the U.S. victory in the Persian Gulf war after not winning in Vietnam. Favorable public opinion about the short and successful Persian Gulf war began to end U.S. reluctance to become involved in foreign conflicts. Thus, this conflict made it clear that war can have both positive and negative effects on American society.

Throughout its history, the U.S. has become involved in a number of foreign conflicts out of a desire to protect her economic interests. Two such conflicts were the Spanish-American war and Persian Gulf war. Ultimately, these wars would have transformational effects on the U.S. and American society, often both positive and negative in nature.
The response:
• Develops all aspects of the task somewhat unevenly by discussing the Spanish-American War in more depth than the Persian Gulf War
• Is both descriptive and analytical (Spanish-American War: early example of United States becoming involved in a war to promote economic interests; publicly proclaimed motives for war seemed to suggest prime reason for United States involvement was the desire to help the Cuban people; ongoing devastation of property owned by Americans and difficulties faced by American businessmen; American interests protected in Cuba with Platt Amendment; elevated United States to status of ambitious and industrialized power; United States taking over Philippines had some devastating effects; Persian Gulf War: mission to provide relief to brutalized people of a foreign country; George H. W. Bush implies that success in war will promote United States economic interests in Middle East by enhancing security and stability of region; Saddam Hussein not removed from power; encouraged removal of laws restricting women’s participation in the military)
• Incorporates relevant information from documents 1, 2, 3, 7, 8, and 9
• Incorporates relevant outside information (Spanish-American War: bad conditions in barbed-wire camps were killing thousands; government ignored Teller Amendment; Filipino rebellion against United States cost more in military strength and American lives than war while also taking lives of thousands of Filipinos; United States built hospitals and schools in Philippines after conflict and finally gave Philippines independence after World War II; Persian Gulf War: Kuwait, a major oil exporter to United States allies; helped encourage the later expensive and long war in Iraq; President Obama withdrew troops from Iraq; other extremist groups in Iraq have meant some American soldiers and advisors have returned and are still there; favorable public opinion about short and successful war began to end United States reluctance to become involved in foreign conflicts after Vietnam)
• Supports the theme with relevant facts, examples, and details (Spanish-American War: initiated in 1898; President McKinley; yellow press; economic presence in Caribbean; United States acquired Guam; Persian Gulf War: Saddam Hussein in violation of international law; 2003 invasion)
• Demonstrates a logical and clear plan of organization; includes an introduction that states the United States became involved in the Spanish-American War and the Persian Gulf War in response to human rights abuses and to protect United States economic interests and a conclusion that restates the theme

Conclusion: Overall, the response fits the criteria for Level 4. Relevant outside information not only supports document information but also the premise that circumstances leading to each war were similar in nature. Some additional development concerning the effects of the Persian Gulf War would have strengthened the response.
Protecting the national security and the freedom of the United States and other countries has been the motive to enter war throughout our history. Two of these include the Spanish-American War and the Korean War. Both of these not only protected security and national interest in specific countries, but it also had a major effect on the United States and American society.

For any nation to enter a war, there has to be some reason for it. For the Spanish American war, the United States entered the war to protect the security and freedom of Cuba and the United States. According to President William McKinley, we had to save the Cubans from the “barbarities, bloodshed, starvation and miseries,” while also saying that the problems in Cuba will hurt the economy of the United States because of American business ties we have in Cuba. (Doc. 1). Another reason for the US to declare war was that the US had for a long time seen the Spanish-occupied Cuba, 90 miles away from the coast of Florida, as a threat to the Western Hemisphere and a violation of the spirit of the Monroe Doctrine. Harbors such as Havana and Cuba's nearness to a possible canal route made it strategically important. We had tried to negotiate a purchase but Spain was never interested in selling Cuba to the United States.

The Korean situation also presented motives for our participation in that war. We supported this UN action because, according to President Harry S. Truman, it showed that the communist North was willing to attack an independent South Korea at will with no instigation in order to spread communism. So, by this logic, what is going to stop the Communists from attacking other United States interests, including even the United States. After watching what had happened
to the world as dictators came to power in the 1930s, it seemed important to stand up to what we saw as Soviet aggression in the 1950s. (Doc 4) Also, during the mid 20th century, the foreign policy of the US was containment of Communism, so we felt compelled to halt the communists from taking control over the entire Korean peninsula and used the spirit of the Truman Doctrine to support our action.

These Wars had major effects on the United States. First, the Spanish American war had split the country into Imperialists and Anti Imperialists (Doc 2a). Although this split had been around before the war it became worse when we decided to take so much territory from Spain after the United States won the war. There were those who wanted to extend the American empire economically and politically (Imperialists) and those who opposed any colonial holdings because it was more in line with our nation’s history (Anti-Imperialists). This would become the primary topic in the Presidential election of 1900 when the Anti-imperialist William Jennings Bryan lost to President William McKinley. Also, the war did make the United States a world power by giving them control of the Philippines (Doc 3) as did the passing of the Platt amendment which gave us the right to intervene in Cuban affairs. Those decisions made the world take notice of United States’ intentions of becoming more important in world affairs.

Another effect was the birth of a war Hero, Teddy Roosevelt, an imperialist who would become president. In foreign policy, he used the “Big Stick” in the Caribbean and Latin America which increased our power in the Western Hemisphere. This changed America because his other progressive policies marked a drastic change from Laissez-faire
economics to government regulated business in the United States.

The Korean war also changed the United States. First, it heated up the cold war tensions between the US and the communists, and because of the war, American domestic policies began to change in response to the changes in views of communism. (Doc 5) The McCarthy Era also arose, when state department officials were fired or resigned due to being accused of being a communist. Also, the Korean war changed the US economically. Because the war never officially ended and protecting South Korea from the North Koreans continues to be important for our national security, the US pays to keep thousands of troops there to keep a new war from starting and to defend South Korea if one does (Doc 6a). It also showed how the United States’ freedom and security depends on the security of other nations (Doc 6b). The experience in Korea encouraged the United States to help the French in their fight with the Vietnamese. The French lost and when the US joined the South Vietnamese, we lost too. Korea was a much more successful stand against communism. Because of this commitment to the freedom and security of other nations, the US will support wars and will enter into security agreements to protect countries from aggressive nations. Hence, the US entered the Korean war and the Spanish-American war to protect national security and promoted national interest. In doing so, these wars changed America and American Society.
Anchor Level 4-B

The response:
• Develops all aspects of the task for the Spanish-American War and the Korean War
• Is both descriptive and analytical (Spanish-American War: United States entered war to protect security and freedom of Cuba and United States; problems in Cuba will hurt United States economy because of American business ties in Cuba; split between imperialists and anti-imperialists worsened by United States decision to take so much territory from Spain after war; Korean War: communist North willing to attack an independent South Korea to spread communism; communists could attack other United States interests including even the United States; because of commitment to freedom and security of other nations, United States will support wars and will enter into security agreements to protect countries from aggressive nations)
• Incorporates relevant information from documents 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6
• Incorporates relevant outside information (Spanish-American War: Cuba, ninety miles away from coast of Florida, seen as a threat to Western Hemisphere and a violation of the spirit of the Monroe Doctrine; nearness to a possible canal route made it strategically important; United States tried to negotiate a purchase of Cuba, but Spain was never interested in selling; imperialism became primary topic for election of 1900 when anti-imperialist William Jennings Bryan lost to William McKinley; Theodore Roosevelt used “Big Stick” in Caribbean and Latin America; Korean War: after watching what happened to world as dictators came to power in the 1930s, it seemed important to stand up to what United States saw as Soviet aggression in 1950s; United States felt compelled to halt communists from taking control over entire Korean peninsula; state department officials were fired or resigned after being accused of being a communist; United States pays to keep thousands of troops in South Korea; encouraged the United States to help the French in their fight with the Vietnamese)
• Supports the theme with relevant facts, examples, and details (Spanish-American War: harbor of Havana; nearness of Cuba; Platt Amendment; Korean War: containment; Truman Doctrine; Cold War tensions; McCarthy Era)
• Demonstrates a logical and clear plan of organization; includes an introduction and a conclusion that are a restatement of the theme

Conclusion: Overall, the response fits the criteria for Level 4. The discussion of both wars is supported by relevant outside information and good document information. Analytic conclusions about the effects of each war would have benefited from further development.
Throughout United States’ history, wars have been fought to protect National Security and promote national interest. The Spanish-American War and the Korean War are wars that were fought for those reasons. The idea of National Security and interest are both very different in each of the wars, but both were still fought for those purposes. Those two wars also had their effects on American Society—some of them positive, others were negative.

The Spanish-American war began in 1898 after a mysterious explosion on the Battleship USS Maine and Spain’s refusal to give Cuba its independence. These were not, however, the only reasons for going to war. Reasons for going to war were complicated by expansionists with Imperialist views. European countries had long been carving their spheres of influence around the globe, most notably in Africa and Asia. Expansionists in the United States wanted in on the action and going to war with Spain, a world power in decline, might mean a victory that would get Cuba its independence and also lead to getting colonial possessions, such as the Phillipines, from Spain. The Phillipines’ close proximity to China could give the United States an expanding role on the World stage and the chance to become a power in Asia. The sinking of the USS Maine was the perfect excuse to fight Spain. Other reasons included how the United States had the duty to protect the Cubans, who were suffering under Spanish rule as President William McKinley put it in his war message to Congress. President McKinley also stated that American economic interests in Cuba were being threatened by Spain and American planters living there were threatened by the “wanton destruction and devastation of the Island”. The end result was that the United States won the war.
established a protectorate over Cuba and took control of the Philippines, after Dewey’s victory at Manila Bay. The Philippines gave the United States a window into China and much of the Pacific, which was good for the economy because it allowed for greater trade and helped lead the United States to announce the Open Door Policy. Some senators questioned the annexation of the Philippines before the Treaty of Paris of 1898 was ratified as it would take an even larger navy to fortify the island and its people would be difficult to control. When Aguinaldo began a rebellion against United States colonial rule, it was decided the island was in chaos and the United States needed to stabilize the situation. Independence would come but would be far in the future. Another effect of the Spanish-American War were the casualties taken, even though less than 400 soldiers were killed in combat, thousands of other died from tropical diseases.

Events leading up to the Korean War began before the North invaded the South, on the other side of the globe when the Soviets took over Eastern Europe and their forces refused to pull out of Germany after World War II. The Soviet Union’s refusal to pull out of those countries created concern about their intentions and a Cold War began. Cold War fears hit the breaking point when North Korea, which was under Soviet influence, invaded South Korea, with the intention of unifying the two countries. In response to the invasion, the United Nations sent a coalition of forces to stop the North’s advance. The reason for the United States getting involved, as put forth by President Truman, was that if one communist country attacks one free nation, other free nations are in danger too. The effects of this longer than expected limited war to keep communists out of the South
were staggering, with about 33,000 American fatalities, followed by 415,000 South Korean fatalities and according to American officials roughly 1 and a half million fatalities by North Korea and China. China’s involvement in the war was unexpected and influenced the United States to agree to settle the conflict at the original parallel. After the war many Americans began to think that the war was not worth the lives lost. There was not a victory over communism as North Korea remains communist today and South Korea still needs help with defense from the United States. 

Throughout United States’ history, wars have been fought to protect national security and interests. The Spanish-American War was fought on the grounds that National security was threatened by the sinking of the USS Maine, and that American planters and interests in Cuba were threatened by Spain’s practices. The Korean War was fought on the grounds that National security was threatened because if one communist country invades, the others will too. So the Korean War was fought to show the Communists, at least according to Clinton, that America will always take drastic measures to defend freedom if it becomes necessary.
Anchor Level 4-C

The response:
• Develops all aspects of the task somewhat unevenly by discussing the Spanish-American War more thoroughly than the Korean War
• Is both descriptive and analytical (Spanish-American War: going to war with Spain might mean a victory that would get Cuba independence and lead to colonial possessions; United States had the duty to protect Cubans; American economic interests in Cuba threatened by Spain; Philippines gave United States a window into China and much of Pacific, allowing for greater trade; Korean War: North Korea invaded South Korea with intention of unifying two countries; limited war to keep communists out of South Korea was longer than expected; many Americans began to think the war was not worth the lives lost)
• Incorporates relevant information from documents 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6
• Incorporates relevant outside information (Spanish-American War: began after a mysterious explosion on USS Maine and Spain’s refusal to give Cuba independence; Philippines’ close proximity to China could give United States a chance to become a power in Asia; a protectorate established over Cuba; helped lead to United States announcing Open Door Policy; some senators questioned annexation before Treaty of Paris ratified; Aguinaldo began a rebellion against United States colonial rule and United States needed to stabilize situation; less than 400 soldiers killed in combat; thousands died from tropical diseases; Korean War: events began when Soviets took over Eastern Europe and refused to pull out of Germany after World War II; United Nations sent coalition of forces to stop North Korea’s advance; China’s involvement unexpected and influenced United States to settle conflict at original parallel; no victory over communism as North Korea remains communist today and South Korea continues to need help with defense from the United States)
• Supports the theme with relevant facts, examples, and details (Spanish-American War: began in 1898; wanton destruction and devastation of island; Dewey’s victory at Manila; Korean War: Cold War; about 33,000 American fatalities; 415,000 South Korean fatalities; roughly one and a half million fatalities from North Korea and China)
• Demonstrates a logical and clear plan of organization; includes an introduction that restates the theme and a conclusion that is slightly beyond a restatement

Conclusion: Overall, the response fits the criteria for Level 4. Recognizing that reasons for war and the effects of war are complicated, the response establishes a historic context that is supported by relevant outside information and good analytic statements. Although good conclusions are reached about the effects of the Korean War, the discussion is primarily focused on document information.
Throughout its early history, the United States wanted to assume a role of isolationism from foreign conflicts, but as the years passed, it has never really been able to do so. The Korean War of the 1950s, and the Persian Gulf War of the 1990s are two examples of wars that the United States became involved in despite not being directly threatened themselves.

The Korea War was a result of the fear of the spread of communism. By this point in time, Soviet communism had taken over a large portion of eastern Europe and it didn't appear to be slowing down. As stated in document 4, President Truman viewed the communist move against South Korea as a threat to free nations everywhere and wanted the UN to support efforts to crush it before it expanded. The aid America provided was in the billions and the number of troops it provided to UN forces was more than any other country but this was a difficult fight. In the beginning, public opinion supported the war and so did Congress even though they were not asked to declare war. With increasing casualties and miscalculations that could have led to World War III questions and doubts about the war and Truman's presidency were raised. The war resulted in the continued separation of Korea into the free South and the communist North. Though as shown in Document 6a, America had sent many troops at the peak of the conflict during the early 1950s and they continued to send troops long after the conflict had ended, becoming more involved in Korea than they originally intended to be with no end in sight. The U.S. commitment to stop communist North Korea and China from taking over South Korea had effects in other places. By the mid-1950s, the Americans had a theory concerning south East Asia called the
Domino theory stating if one country became communist others would too, communism would gain power and eventually would make its way to the U.S. This led to U.S. long involvement in Vietnam which ended in failure.

The Gulf War was another example of another region of the world that made it impossible for us to be isolationist. This war began when the nation of Iraq lead by the dictator Saddam Hussein invaded and occupied the small nation of Kuwait. America and other Allied nations became involved in the war for moral reasons according to document 7 to help liberate Kuwait and restore peace to the middle east. Peace in the middle east has been an important objective of U.S. foreign policy since World War II when its oil became an important energy source. The oil embargo of the 1970s drove up oil prices and the same thing could have happened again if Saddam Hussein took over Kuwait’s oil wells. This would have been especially bad for nations such as Japan who relied on imports of Kuwaiti oil. Though American involvement helped to liberate Kuwait quickly using advanced weapons it did not come without negative effects. For one as explained in 8b the troops returning from Iraq like the troops returning from Vietnam fell victim to numerous physical and mental health problems including PTSD. Agent Orange in Vietnam and pollutants from burning oil wells in Kuwait left soldiers with lingering health problems. This seemed like a high price to pay for a foreign conflict. In addition the United States involvement in the Persian Gulf War and its botched finish led the United States to become involved in another conflict with Iraq. Economic sanctions and UN weapons inspections were not enough to keep Operation Iraqi Freedom from happening.
setting up the United States for more conflicts in the future. In conclusion the Korean War and the Persian Gulf War were similar because they were conflicts the U.S. joined into without being directly attacked. For the most part U.S. involvement was a response to an oppressive situation or a tyrant that the U.S. wanted to stop. The U.S. invested a lot of soldiers and money into these foreign wars and though sometimes America was successful in the short term like in the case of Kuwait, in other conflicts we had to compromise leaving the country divided like in Korea. In the end it is debatable whether these wars were beneficial or harmful to American society. Some viewed these wars as the U.S. taking a stand for the freedom of other nations, others could say they were an unnecessary loss of American lives which only opened up doors to longer conflicts in the regions we were trying to aid. Beyond being just “good” or “bad” these war had an important impact on American society.
The response:
- Develops all aspects of the task with some depth for the Korean War and the Persian Gulf War
- Is more descriptive than analytical (Korean War: President Truman viewed the communist move against South Korea as threat to free nations; America sent many troops at peak of conflict and continued to send troops long after it ended; United States more involved in Korea than originally intended; Persian Gulf War: Saddam Hussein invaded and occupied Kuwait; America and other Allied nations involved in war for moral reasons to liberate Kuwait and restore peace to Middle East; American involvement helped to liberate Kuwait; soldiers left with lingering health problems; involvement in war and its botched finish led United States to become more involved in another conflict with Iraq)
- Incorporates some relevant information from documents 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9
- Incorporates relevant outside information (Korean War: America provided aid in billions and more troops to United Nations forces than any other country; in beginning, public opinion supported war and so did Congress even though not asked to declare war; with increasing casualties and miscalculations that could have led to World War III, questions and doubts about war and Truman’s presidency raised; domino theory stated if one country became communist others would too; led to long involvement in Vietnam which ended in failure; Persian Gulf War: peace in Middle East an important objective of United States since oil is an important energy source; oil embargo of 1970s drove up oil prices and same thing could happen if Saddam Hussein took over Kuwait’s oil wells; bad for nations who relied on imports of Kuwaiti oil; troops returning from Vietnam fell victim to Agent Orange; pollutants from burning oil wells in Kuwait; economic sanctions and United Nations weapons inspections not enough to keep Operation Iraqi Freedom from happening)
- Includes some relevant facts, examples, and details (Korean War: continued separation of Korea into free South and communist North; Persian Gulf War: Post-Traumatic Stress Syndrome)
- Demonstrates a satisfactory plan of organization; includes an introduction that states the United States wanted to assume a role of isolationism early in its history and a conclusion that is beyond a restatement of the theme

Conclusion: Overall, the response fits the criteria for Level 3. Although good relevant outside information is included in the response, document information frames the treatment of both wars. Elements of comparison and some analytic statements about the wars are made in the conclusion but are not well supported in the discussion.
In order to maintain a sense of safety, security, and protection in the nation, the United States has participated in wars that threatened peace. Some wars that the United States has entered that could possibly threaten or jeopardize peace include the Korean War of the 1950’s and the Persian Gulf War of 1991. The United States believed both of these wars “required” American interference, which led to outcomes which are still affecting the world and us today.

Both the Korean war and the Persian Gulf war did not initially involve the United States being attacked. The U.S. was not directly attacked by Korea nor Iraq. However, the U.S. government did feel that the free world was threatened by communist expansion and that it was important to stand up to them in Korea. Iraq’s actions in Kuwait violated international law and could interrupt the flow of oil and endanger other Middle Eastern nations. These circumstances are what led America to enter each of these wars. On July 19, 1950, President Harry Truman made an address to the American people on the situation in Korea by radio and television (Doc. 4). He had to make a strong case for sending U.S. troops to Korea when America was just recovering from World War II because communism was threatening U.S. security. In this announcement, President Truman explains how on June 25th, communist forces had attacked the Republic of Korea which we were not expecting. The U.S., and much of the World, saw the attack upon South Korea as a breech of peace and a violation to the Charter of the U.N. The world had high hopes that the U.N. would be able to keep the peace and help stop aggression that could lead to wider wars. This fear of the spread of communism and the need for containment led to the U.S. entering the Korean War and fighting
along with U.N. forces to save South Korea. Similar to this was the Persian Gulf War. On January 16th, 1991, President George H.W. Bush made an announcement to the nation about allied military action in the Persian Gulf (Doc. 7). Similar to Korea, the U.N. played a role in the decision to support Kuwait. Iraq had invaded a smaller and weaker neighbor country: Kuwait and would not leave as demanded by the U.N. and the U.S. President Bush wanted Saddam Hussein’s forces to retreat from Kuwait or they would be expelled, and this led to the U.S. entering the Persian Gulf War.

Both the Korean war and the Persian Gulf war had major effects on the United States and American society. About 33,000 Americans had died in the Korean war (Doc. 5). The Korean war actually turned the cold war of words between the United States and the Soviet Union hot for a brief time. Also, the number of U.S. troops deployed in South Korea decreased drastically after the war (Doc. 6). However, America kept peace between North Korea and South Korea by keeping American troops stationed on the border between the Koreas (Doc. 6). Also, communism scared many Americans at home as well. Many American citizens had been frightened by the possible spread of communism in the United States as shown by their reaction to McCarthyism and the Rosenberg Trial. The effects of the Persian Gulf war were that the U.S. did expell Iraq from Kuwait, however problems with Saddam Hussein did not end. Trouble with Saddam Hussein continued in the 1990s and worries about him having weapons of mass destruction led to Operation Iraqi Freedom in 2003 (Doc. 9).

Eventually, Saddam Hussein was captured and put to death. The tensions between Iraq and America have led to continuing concerns of
terrorism and unfair stereotypes of people of mid-eastern descent. However, laws restricting women's services in the military were gradually changing due to the outstanding devotion of women in the military participating in the Persian Gulf War. They proved they could do just as good a job in the military as men. Unfortunately about 9-24% of returning troops from this war suffered from post traumatic stress disorder (Doc. 8). Higher rates of suicide and other mental health problems among veterans of Middle Eastern deployments are still being studied.

Wars that America has been a part of have been fought to secure our national interests. The Korean War was entered to protect South Korea from communism, and the Persian Gulf War was fought to protect America's economic interests and free Kuwait.
Anchor Level 3-B

The response:
- Develops all aspects of the task with some depth for the Korean War and the Persian Gulf War
- Is more descriptive than analytical (Korean War: did not initially involve United States being attacked; United States government felt free world threatened by communist expansion; United States saw attack on South Korea as breach of peace and violation of United Nations charter; turned Cold War of words between United States and Soviet Union hot for a brief time; America kept peace by keeping American troops stationed on border between the Koreas; many American citizens frightened by possible spread of communism in United States; Persian Gulf War: United States not directly attacked by Iraq; Iraq’s actions in Kuwait violated international law; United Nations played a role in decision to support Kuwait; Iraq would not leave as demanded by United Nations and United States; laws restricting women’s service in military gradually changing due to outstanding devotion of women participating in war; higher rates of mental health problems among veterans of Middle Eastern deployments)
- Incorporates some relevant information from documents 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9
- Incorporates relevant outside information (Korean War: President Truman had to make a strong case for sending troops to Korea when America was just recovering from World War II; America not expecting attack on South Korea; world had high hopes that United Nations would keep peace and stop aggression that could lead to wider wars; containment led United States to fight along with United Nations forces to save South Korea; Persian Gulf War: Iraq’s actions in Kuwait could interrupt flow of oil and endanger other Middle Eastern nations; worries about weapons of mass destruction led to Operation Iraqi Freedom in 2003; Saddam Hussein put to death; tensions between Iraq and United States have led to continuing concerns of terrorism and unfair stereotypes of people of Middle Eastern descent)
- Includes some relevant facts, examples, and details (Korean War: Republic of Korea; about 33,000 Americans died; McCarthyism; Rosenberg trial; Persian Gulf War: about 9 percent to 24 percent of returning troops suffered from Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder; higher rates of suicide)
- Demonstrates a satisfactory plan of organization; includes an introduction that restates the theme and a conclusion that summarizes reasons for the Korean War and the Persian Gulf War

Conclusion: Overall, the response fits the criteria for Level 3. The strength of the response is in a few well-placed comparative statements. Outside information supports document information in a descriptive discussion; however, additional facts and details would have strengthened the effort.
Throughout history, the wars that the United States has chosen to take part in have had a profound impact on the nation. One such war was the Spanish-American war in 1898. The United States was drawn into the war by Spanish brutalities but continued its involvement in Cuba and some other former Spanish colonies. While for a different reason, the Korean War in the mid 20th century also had a significant impact on the United States. The root cause of it was the containment of communism, but it helped shape American foreign policy for other parts of the world. As can be seen in the Spanish-American War and the Korean War, wars have greatly influenced the United States.

There were just as many effects of the Spanish-American War as reasons for involvement. As President McKinley stated in a message to Congress, the barbarities in Cuba were too alarming to ignore. (Doc 1) Many Cubans were taken to camps and mistreated so they couldn’t help the rebels fight the Spanish. The United States had a moral as well as economic duty to intervene. Blowing up the Maine was also a reason to fight Spain. The war also sparked interest in expansion beyond the United States. Soon, as indicated by Richard Collins’ statements about Theodore Roosevelt, the United States began becoming involved elsewhere, showing that it was a capable world power (Doc 3). Imperialists had advocated for the annexation of territories such as Hawaii for a long time. Hawaii was finally annexed during the war and we took control of the Philippines. The war sparked imperialistic opinions and some anti-imperialistic opinions in the nation. The Spanish-American war has clearly shown that wars have a lasting impacts on the United States because in becoming a world
Like the Spanish-American War, the Korean War was an influential war on American history. North Korean forces attacked the Republic of South Korea. This led to political leaders such as Harry Truman to call to arms the American military to join UN forces and help prevent the spread of communism into South Korea. Believing the Soviets were behind the attack and were interested in world domination, Korea was a good place to stand our ground (Doc 4). At the time, McCarthyism was fervent and many Americans advocated and supported President Truman’s containment policy to help ensure communism would not reach the United States. As a result, troops were sent to help stabilize the peninsula, drive North Korea out of the South, and restore the original boundary. This was successful but we were not able to take over North Korea because China sent troops. After its involvement in Korea, the United States has come to a realization that it had a duty in Asia to stop the communist influence from spreading. The United States believed it had the potential of making a difference in the world and fighting in Korea reinforced that idea (Doc 6b). Even though communism was not eliminated in North Korea and has continued to be a force in the world, the war showed that we would help others defend their freedom and security. Its impact on the United States influenced how the United States would deal with future wars involving communism in Asia such as the Vietnam War. It was not until after the Vietnam War that we began to question global military containment and its costs to the country. Wars in United States history have had a variety of causes and effects, as evidenced by the Spanish-American War and the Korean
War. The root cause for involvement in both wars was the brutality of another nation, such as Spain or North Korea. While the two wars had different purposes, to stop brutality and prevent the spread of communism, they had the same underlying effect on the United States. After both wars, the United States believed it needed a more involved foreign policy. While wars have different settings and reasons, it is evident that they nevertheless have a profound impact on the involved country such as the United States.

Anchor Level 3-C

The response:
• Develops all aspects of the task with little depth for the Spanish-American War and the Korean War
• Is more descriptive than analytical (Spanish-American War: barbarities in Cuba were too alarming to ignore; sparked interest in expansion beyond the United States; United States a capable world power; sparked imperialistic opinions and anti-imperialistic opinions in nation; Korean War: helped shape American foreign policy; United States troops sent to help stabilize peninsula, drive North Korea out of South, and restore original boundary; United States believed it had potential of making a difference; war showed we would help others defend their freedom and security)
• Incorporates relevant information from documents 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6
• Incorporates relevant outside information (Spanish-American War: many Cubans taken to camps and mistreated; blowing up the Maine was a reason to fight Spain; imperialists advocated for annexation of territories; increased our presence in Latin America and Asia; Korean War: United States believed Soviets behind attack and interested in world domination; McCarthyism was fervent and many Americans supported President Truman’s containment policy to help ensure communism did not reach the United States; United States realized it had a further duty in Asia to stop communist influence from spreading; not until after Vietnam War did we began to question global military containment and its costs)
• Includes some relevant facts, examples, and details (Spanish-American War: Theodore Roosevelt; Hawaii; control of Philippines; Korean War: North Korean forces attacked Republic of South Korea)
• Demonstrates a satisfactory plan of organization; includes an introduction and a conclusion that compares and contrasts causes and effects of the Spanish-American War and the Korean War

Conclusion: Overall, the response fits the criteria for Level 3. Relevant document and outside information are strung together and show an understanding of the task, but this information is not well integrated. The discussion of each war’s effects includes some thoughtful conclusions about the expanded role of the United States in world affairs.
The United States has gone to war numerous times in its history. These wars have proved to be costly but were necessary to protect American interests. The Spanish-American War and the Korean War are two examples of these types of wars.

In 1898 the Spanish were in control of the island of Cuba. When the Cuban natives rebelled against their rule, the Spanish responded harshly. They began to torture and starve the natives. These “barbarities, bloodshed, starvation and horrible miseries” (Doc 1) were one of the reasons that we entered Cuba. This was also having an effect on our commerce because of the lack of trade with Cuba. Then, the sinking of the USS Maine was the final straw. This event was exaggerated through the use of yellow journalism, but we were now at war. We quickly destroyed the Spanish Navy and rescued the Cubans from the grips of the Spanish. Before peace could be achieved the US had some demands. We required the Island of Puerto Rico and the Philippines. (Doc 2a) But for us to remain in control of the Philippines, we had to fight a rebellion against the Phillipinos. (Doc 2b) This war put US on the global stage as a great power. (Doc 3)

The Korean War was a bloody and brutal war. When communist forces invaded the Republic of Korea, this showed how they are willing to use violent aggression to spread their views of Communism. (Doc 4) This war that “began at the 38th parallel and ended at the 38th parallel” (Doc 6b) resulted in 33,000 U.S. deaths and 105,000 U.S. soldiers wounded. (Doc 5)

This war showed that the communists are willing to take aggressive action to spread their beliefs. This war resulted in the split of North and South Korea. There are 37,000 U.S. soldiers maintaining that armistice as of 2005.
Anchor Level 2-A

The response:
• Minimally addresses all aspects of the task for the Spanish-American War and the Korean War
• Is primarily descriptive (Spanish-American War: when Cuban natives rebelled against Spanish rule, the Spanish responded harshly by torturing and starving natives; affected United States commerce; United States rescued Cubans from grips of Spanish; to remain in control of Philippines, United States had to fight a rebellion against the Filipinos; Korean War: communist forces showed they are willing to use violent aggression; 37,000 United States soldiers maintaining armistice as of 2005)
• Incorporates limited relevant information from documents 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6
• Presents little relevant outside information (Spanish-American War: sinking of USS Maine exaggerated through use of yellow journalism; United States quickly destroyed Spanish navy)
• Includes few relevant facts, examples, and details (Spanish-American War: Spanish in control of Cuba; United States on global stage; Korean War: bloody and brutal war; 38th parallel; 33,000 United States deaths; 105,000 United States soldiers wounded)
• Demonstrates a general plan of organization; includes an introduction that is slightly beyond a restatement of the theme and lacks a conclusion

Conclusion: Overall, the response fits the criteria for Level 2. Document information and limited outside information are used to address the Spanish-American War. General statements address all aspects of the task for the Korean War; however, they are not developed.
Wars, even if fought on foreign soil, effect the United States. Two of these wars were the Korean War (1950–1953) and the Persian Gulf war (1991). No matter what circumstances led to the start of the war, both negative and positive effects on the United States are a result. After WWII, tensions between the USSR and the United States continued to rise, beginning the cold war. When communists invaded Korea the US saw it as a threat to democracy. It was believed that “the international communist movement is willing to use armed invasion to conquer independent nations.” (Doc. 4) Believing in the domino theory, that if one nation falls to communism their neighbors will as well the US stepped into war. This communist attack was seen as “a very real danger to the security of all free nations.” (doc. 4). As a result, 33,000 American lives were lost as well as another 105,000 Americans injured. (doc. 5) In the end there was an “armed truce” where “both sides claimed victory” and “the final division of the country was no different”. (doc. 5). The only positive outcome of the Korean war for Americans was the re-enforcing values and lessons taught. The US is a super power in the world, “our freedom and security depends on the freedom and, security of others” (doc. 6b). With clear goals and values the US was able to win the Korean war but with a price to pay for its own nation. In January of 1991 the Persian Gulf war began with air strikes from the United States onto Iraq. Five months previous, “Saddam Hussein started his cruel war against Kuwait” (doc. 7). After an oil embargo was put in place against the US and the invasions to helpless countries the US stepped in with clear and promising goals. The first was that “the legitimate government of Kuwait will be restored to its
rightful place” (doc. 7). With the belief that the US could provide aid, troops were sent into Iraq. As a result of the Persian Gulf War, women gained more status in the military. “The last of the laws restricting woman’s service were lifted by the middle of the decade.” (doc. 8a). Women’s rights were increasing in the military as they were now allowed to become more involved and more were joining in. But one serious effect came out from the war as well. PTSD or post traumatic stress disorder now affected a “range anywhere from almost 9% to approximately 24%” and was much higher than previous wars. (doc. 8b). With clear goals the US came out of the Persian Gulf war with many consequences.

Under many circumstances wars are started and fought. The Korean war and the Persian Gulf war are both prime examples in showing how Americans are then effected by the war. Either positive or negative, consequences to wars do arise.
### Anchor Level 2-B

**The response:**
- Minimally develops all aspects of the task for the Korean War and the Persian Gulf War
- Is primarily descriptive (*Korean War:* after World War II, tensions between USSR and United States continued to rise; when communists invaded Korea, the United States saw it as a threat to democracy; communist attack seen as a very real danger to security of all free nations; both sides claimed victory in an armed truce; final division of country no different; *Persian Gulf War:* goal of United States to restore legitimate government of Kuwait; women gained more status in military; more women joined; Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder much higher than in previous wars)
- Includes limited relevant information from documents 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8
- Presents no relevant outside information
- Includes few relevant facts, examples, and details (*Korean War:* Cold War; 33,000 American lives lost; 105,000 Americans injured; *Persian Gulf War:* United States air strikes on Iraq; American troops sent into Iraq); includes inaccuracies (*Korean War:* believing in domino theory that if one nation falls to communism neighbors will as well; *Persian Gulf War:* oil embargo put in place against United States)
- Demonstrates a general plan of organization; includes an introduction and a conclusion that state wars have positive and negative effects on the United States

**Conclusion:** Overall, the response fits the criteria for Level 2. The discussion of both wars is dominated by relevant document information that is strung together. Without additional facts to connect and to explain the quoted material, the response lacks cohesion.
Throughout United States history, wars have been fought to protect national security and promote national interest. These wars and their outcomes have affected the U.S. as well as American Society. Two wars that have had an affect on society was the Korean War from 1950–1953 as well as the Persian Gulf War in 1991. Both wars have violated a country’s national security, as well as their society they live in.

During the Korean War from 1950–1953, South Korea’s national security was threatened. South Korea was democratic, and North Korea was communist. Communism was on the rise during this time period in countries such as the Soviet Union and China. As Document 4 states, the attack on South Korea by North Korea prompted then President Harry Truman to issue a statement saying, “An act of aggression like this creates a real danger to the security of all free nations.” This led to Congress declaring war on North Korea and sending in troops. Document 5 explains how tensions between the United States and Communist forces in Asia heightened because of the war going on in Korea. The United States forces invaded North Korea and that prompted China to get involved. This eventually led to about an estimated 1.5 million Americans killed or wounded. Also, the country divided at the 38th parallel. Document 6a briefly states that the U.S. sent about 325,000 troops to Korea between 1950–1953. This war affected American society because of the massive amount of casualties sustained by American forces.

Another war that affected the United States and its society was the Persian Gulf War in 1991. Saddam Hussein and Iraq invaded the country of Kuwait because Iraq wanted to possess the oil reserves that
Kuwait owned. As Document 7 explains, the United States sent in air support because Kuwait was in the United Nations and if a nation got attacked, others were supposed to come and help. Also, the document states that our mission was to get Saddam and his forces to leave the nation of Kuwait and will be peaceful and cooperative. As Document 9 shows, the invasion of Kuwait by Iraqi forces in 1991 led to a decade long chain of events along with attempts to contain Saddam Hussein. This eventually led to the Iraq army being expelled and pushed out of Kuwait. President George H. W. Bush made a speech saying that the Iraqi’s should “force Saddam Hussein the dictator to step aside.” This affected American Society by sending air support to Kuwait. In conclusion, wars have been fought throughout US history to protect national security of nations. The wars have affected the history and society of the United States in many ways. The Korean War from 1950–1953 prevented the spread of communism from North Korea into South Korea. During the Gulf War in 1991, we aided Kuwait in helping to stop Iraq from taking over their natural resources. This affected America by showing we are willing and able to help weak nations in a time of crisis.
Anchor Level 2-C

The response:

- Develops some aspects of the task for the Korean War and the Persian Gulf War
- Is primarily descriptive (Korean War: tensions between United States and communist forces in Asia heightened because of war; invasion of North Korea by United States forces prompted China to get involved; Persian Gulf War: United States sent in air support because Kuwait is in United Nations, and if a nation was attacked, others were supposed to come and help; led to a decade-long chain of events; Iraqi army expelled and pushed out of Kuwait); includes weak application (Korean War: South Korea democratic; Persian Gulf War: affected American society by sending air support to Kuwait)
- Includes limited relevant information from documents 4, 5, 6, 7, and 9
- Presents little relevant outside information (Persian Gulf War: Iraq wanted to possess Kuwait’s oil reserves)
- Includes few relevant facts, examples, and details (Korean War: North Korea communist; President Truman; 38th parallel; United States sent about 325,000 troops to Korea between 1950 and 1953; Persian Gulf War: Saddam Hussein); includes inaccuracies (Korean War: Congress declared war on North Korea; communism on the rise in Soviet Union; estimated 1.5 million Americans killed; massive amount of casualties sustained by American force; Persian Gulf War: invasion of Kuwait by Iraqi forces in 1991)
- Demonstrates a general plan of organization; includes an introduction and a conclusion that are a restatement of the theme

Conclusion: Overall, the response fits the criteria for Level 2. Document information about historical circumstances is strung together with brief explanations. However, the effects on American society are only briefly stated, and in some cases, inaccurate.
Throughout United States history, we have fought many wars with the intention of protecting other nations. These wars have both harmed and benefitted the United States in many ways. One reason President William McKinley asked Congress to declare war was because he wanted to offer safety and security to citizens in Cuba. Another reason McKinley wanted to declare war was because he wanted to end horrible miseries in Cuba as well.

President George H.W. Bush began air strikes in Iraq in January of 1991 was to help protect Kuwait from Suddam Hussein’s forces. Kuwait was/is a member of the United Nations. In return of the start of the Persian Gulf war, Iraqis now strongly distrust America. Because of the Spanish American war America lost too many men, too much money, and also America went from a provincial to a world power.

Many of the wars that the United States has been part of in history is in cause of the intention to protect other nations. This is both harmful and beneficial to the United States of America.
Anchor Level 1-A

The response:
• Minimally addresses some aspects of the task for the Spanish-American War and the Persian Gulf War
• Is descriptive (Spanish-American War: President McKinley wanted to offer safety and security to our citizens in Cuba; America lost too many men, too much money, and went from a provincial to a world power; Persian Gulf War: President George H.W. Bush wanted to help protect Kuwait from Saddam Hussein’s forces); includes faulty application (Persian Gulf War: in return of the start of the Persian Gulf War, Iraqis now strongly distrust America)
• Includes minimal information from documents 1, 2, 3, 7, and 9
• Presents no relevant outside information
• Includes few relevant facts, examples, and details (Spanish-American War: horrible miseries in Cuba; Persian Gulf War: began air strikes in Iraq in January 1991; Kuwait, a member of the United Nations)
• Demonstrates a general plan of organization; includes an introduction and a conclusion that state wars have both harmed and benefited the United States in many ways

Conclusion: Overall, the response fits the criteria for Level 1. A minimal understanding of the task is demonstrated by the use of single unexplained statements. Only one effect of the Persian Gulf War is stated and it reflects some confusion about document 9.
Throughout the history of the United States, wars have been fought to protect national security and promote the national interest. These wars have affected the United States and American society in many different ways. Let's examine this in the following essay.

One war that affected the United States dramatically was the Korean War. As stated in Doc 4, the United States were concerned about the attacks on the Republic of Korea by the communists. It was a warning that there might be similar acts of aggression on them as well. Americans didn't take the chance of another attack occurring.

The aftereffects of the Korean War was a disaster. As stated in Doc 5, 33,000 Americans died and another 105,000 were wounded. The Americans officials put their losses at roughly 1.5 million men killed. This war made the U.S. strategic vision of Asia change and its domestic political equation had been greatly altered.

Anchor Level 1-B

The response:
- Minimally addresses all aspects of the task for the Korean War
- Is descriptive (Korean War: United States concerned about attacks on Republic of Korea by communists; a warning that there might be similar attacks of aggression)
- Includes minimal information from documents 4 and 5
- Presents no relevant outside information
- Includes few relevant facts, examples, and details (Korean War: 33,000 Americans died; 105,000 Americans wounded); includes an inaccuracy (Korean War: American officials put their losses at roughly 1.5 million men killed)
- Demonstrates a general plan of organization; includes an introduction that restates the theme and lacks a conclusion

Conclusion: Overall, the response fits the criteria for Level 1. Although only the Korean War is addressed, a limited understanding of that war is demonstrated. Relevant statements from the documents are chosen to address all aspects of the task.
Throughout United States’ history, there have been wars fought to preserve freedoms and American interests. Two wars that played major roles in American foreign policies were the Korean War (1950-1953) and the Persian Gulf War (1991). Both wars impacted American society and American history.

The Korean War, first declared in 1950, was a war in the Korean Peninsula over the border between Communist North Korea and non-communist South Korea. George Kennan’s theory of containment and the domino-effect theory led to our involvement in that war to contain communist forces and to preserve a non-communist government in South Korea. Fighting occurred, mostly in South Korea by U.N. forces, mostly comprised of American soldiers. Under Douglas McArthur, the tide of war shifted toward the American cause and to going above the initial border which eventually had the North Koreans backpedalled up to China. China then became involve in the war pushing UN forces back and bringing the border down to the 38th parallel – where it was before. This fighting to roll back communism, however, proved to be McArthur’s undoing but instrumental towards the American cause since it proved to communist forces that the United States was willing to fight for its cause to stop the spread of communism. The Korean War has also had a lasting impact on foreign affairs; the security and freedom of the United States depend on the securities and freedoms of the rest of the world. This has helped produce the globalization of United States commitment, a foreign policy heavily dependent on United States engagement with the world, many overseas bases, and billions of dollars in military spending. Not everyone agreed with globalization and thought the
United States should scale back its involvement in world affairs. Containment itself was questioned after a long and unsuccessful war in Vietnam.

The oil reserves in the Middle East have always been central to United States foreign policy in that region. During the Cold War, the United States was concerned about communism spreading into the Middle East. At the end of the Cold War, the United States was concerned about the growing power of dictators such as Saddam Hussein whom we had helped when circumstances were different. The Persian Gulf war of 1991, much like the Korean War, was fought to preserve freedom. After an invasion by Saddam Hussein’s forces of Iraq into Kuwait, President George H. W. Bush began airstriking Iraq. This war was fought to enhance the security and stability of the Gulf, a Middle-Eastern region vital to the American economy and to the world. This war ended prematurely, leading to continued violations of UN principles by Saddam Hussein who stayed in power. This unfinished business would require a second invasion by the United States in Iraq under George W. Bush. The Persian Gulf War led to the Iraq War which impacted the U.S. not only by increasing its Middle-Eastern military occupation, but also by causing more Islamic opposition to our presence. This opposition continues to impact United States foreign policy and American society. Americans who were part of the first gulf war were impacted as well. Women were finally permitted on aircraft engaged in combat missions. Although this event was positive, there were also some negative effects such as the growing reported physical and mental health problems by veterans of the Persian Gulf war.
Despite George Washington’s call to avoid political entanglements in his famous farewell address, the United States has sometimes found itself involved in conflicts with other nations. First associated with the superpower Great Britain, we as a country have advanced ourselves to superpower status. This status started to build in the late 1800s during a period of expansion and continued with events such as the fall of the Berlin wall. The Spanish American war of 1898 began a period of expansion that made the United States an imperial power, while our intervention in the Korean War of 1950 to 1953 ultimately led to our victory in the Cold War, according to President Clinton.

The Spanish American war began for a number of reasons and embroiled the United States in many debates surrounding its stance on ethical matters of freedom. Coming to the close of the 19th century, the US had entered a guilded age financed by powerful robber barons. Spain had been on the decline for many years and its control over its colonies was dwindling. As the Cubans revolted against Spanish control, both sides launched bloody campaigns against the other. Conditions in reconcentration camps led to a humanitarian crisis that could not be ignored especially when American newspapers started to publish exaggerated details of the situation. In his April 11, 1898 address to Congress, humanitarian aid was one of the main reasons President McKinley proposed a declaration of war against Spain (Doc. 1). Another reason was the belief that as a free country, it was our duty to aid those kept from their natural liberties. McKinley also mentioned the threat the problems between Spain and Cuba posed to American business, and that is one of the chief reasons for the
Spanish American War. With much money invested in Cuban sugar plantations, the US intervened to repair the disruption of commerce. Newspapers also exaggerated the “destruction” of the USS Maine which blew up in Havana. Hundreds of United States sailors died and Spain was blamed. This event helped inflame public opinion and paved the way for U.S. intervention. In the end, the United States won the war against Spain, despite their being woefully unprepared for war with wool uniforms and contaminated canned food. But with the surrender of Spain, the US acquired the Philippines, and refused to give them their independence. The U.S. became an imperial power almost overnight. Some Americans raised questions about whether the US should do what was democratic and allow the Philippines to rule themselves. William Jennings Bryan argued that the faraway Philippines possessed their own customs that were entirely unrelated to ours and they were too different to be annexed. Also, as an anti-imperialist, he points out, how much money and military power would be needed to keep 8 million people subdued (Doc. 2b)? Some critics of expansion accused the US of rejecting its own history and traditions and being instead governed by selfish ambition. The U.S. did keep the Philippines under their control by fighting a three-year war to do so. The Spanish American war promoted the US to the position of an imperial power on the world stage with property 6000 miles away in Asia (Doc 2b). Also, the Spanish American war paved the way for a well known American – Teddy Roosevelt, who first became a Rough Rider war hero and then took office as McKinley’s vice-president in 1900. As president he would come to strengthen the US’s new position on the world’s stage (Doc 3) with the building of the Panama Canal.
The Spanish American war had many causes and many effects. With the looming threat of communism, the Korean war had many causes and greatly impacted the future United States. After WWII, the US and the Soviet Union became fierce adversaries with many social, political, and economic differences of opinion. What became dangerous about this rivalry was that in the 1950s each side possessed atomic weapons. The United States sought to contain the possible spread of communism and after the failure to keep China from falling to communism, the US saw Korea as an opportunity to prove that their policy of containment could work and stop communist aggression in Asia. As Truman said in his 1950 radio broadcast, the US feared communism threatening other free nations (Doc. 4). Under Soviet influence, communist North Korea invaded South Korea and the South Korean government knew the North was seeking to unite the two under communism. With the support of the United Nations Security Council, UN troops and the US, the South pushed North Korea back almost to the Chinese border. But with the support of the USSR and the intervention of the Chinese army, the North was successful in moving the division back to the 38th parallel. A war with limits in which a “draw” might be as good as you might get was not what Americans were used to. Truman’s popularity dropped dramatically and ended any chance of his running for reelection in 1952. This rather costly war did not appear to accomplish much, as David Halberstom acknowledges in The Coldest Winter: America and the Korean War. However communism was contained to the North and it demonstrated that the UN would take action when a member nation was being threatened by aggression. The Korean War was a key event
in the cold war, a time in which the US and USSR came close to actual fighting and directly did so through proxies (Doc. 5). This war led to a continuation of the cold war. It would be years and many other events before the US’s eventual victory in the cold war. We sent a clear message that the US would fight for freedom, as indicated by Bill Clinton in his 2000 remarks about the legacy of the Korean War (Doc. 6b). However, because Korea remains divided at the 38th parallel, the US still has troops stationed there to defend our democratic ally with whom we have close economic and political ties. North Korean threats of unification and animosity continue today and stand as a reminder of the many causes and effects of the Korean war. The Spanish American War and the Korean War both presented new challenges, created new opportunities, and contributed to our status as a world power. There can be no turning back to the advice given by George Washington in his Farewell Address.
Throughout the History of the United States, it has gotten involved in wars to support both its national securities agenda and its national interests. The society of America has been affected in different ways by these wars. The Spanish American war of 1898 was focused on national interests and changed Americans to a more imperialistic country. While the Korean war from 1950–1953 was fought for both national security and national self interests. The war was a factor in making America’s society increasingly anti-communist. America got involved in the Spanish-American war because of National interests. President McKinley did not want to go to war over Cuba but he believed “we owe it to our citizens in Cuba to afford them that protection of life and property which no government there can or will afford” (Doc 1). America needed to get involved in the war to protect it’s citizens lives from dangers of the Cuban Rebellion. Then America would also want to get involved for economic national interests, such as the destruction of sugar plantations and other American investments by both sides in the fighting. High tariffs meant that America bought less sugar which in turn made the situation of the island worse. America had become an increasingly imperialistic nation and more involved in foreign affairs. Since they achieved manifest destiny all the way to California they were looking for other areas for national expansion. (Doc 2a) America transformed into a world power after the war when America decided to keep the Philippines and not give them independence. (Doc 3) Americans increasingly supported the idea of expanding America’s international power and authority, with President Roosevelt sending our navy the “great white fleet”, around the world. America also had a thirst for
fulfilling a new “manifest destiny.” Some Americans wanted to spread its values and ideas to the less fortunate and take up the “White Man’s Burden” in territories such as the Philippines. The Spanish American war made Americans more nationalistic and helped give them the confidence they needed to do this. Unfortunately, it would be some time before America would give their new territories such as the Philippines their independence to be democratic nations on their own.

America became engaged in the Korean war for interests of both national security and national interest. America became involved to help stop the spread of communism to free nations which in turn would help keep America safer because there would be fewer communist countries and less influence and power for the Soviet Union. This policy was called containment, and it was endorsed through the Marshall Plan and the Truman doctrine with both economic and militany backing. It seemed that as America pushed containment, the Soviet Union pushed communism. America would support free nations, such as South Korea who was opposing communist rule. Not trusting the Soviet Union, America believed they were behind many of the world’s trouble spots and there were probably more to come. America’s domestic policy as the Korean war began drastically changed. (Doc 5) When North Korea attacked South Korea without warning, fears about communism made some people worry about America’s internal security. America became increasingly anti-communist as Americans started to worry about communists inside the government. The famous McCarthy hearings would be held as a response from fear of the infiltration of communists in the
government and would dominate the news. After the Korean war ended in a “draw”, Americans were relieved that it was over and were tired of McCarthy. Another way in which American Society was affected by the Korean war was that it led to integration of the military. (Doc 6b) Returning African American vets were now determined to improve their rights. This would help pave the way for the civil rights movements of the 1950s and 1960s.

America throughout its history has gotten involved in wars for a variety of reasons and these wars have affected the society of the nation at that time. Whether it was the Spanish-American war to protect national interests such as economic gains or the Korean war to stop the spread of communism through the policy of containment. And whether it would be that the American society would increasingly become imperialistic, like it did after the Spanish-American war or somewhat more tolerant after the Korean war. America has for ever been shaped by the wars it has gotten involved in and will continue to be shaped with future wars to come.
Throughout the history of the United States, the country has been involved in different wars. These conflicts were entered both to protect national security and national interests, but affected the United States and American society in other ways as well. The effects of war on the United States can be seen clearly in the Spanish-American war and in the Korean War. Each of these affected the post-war society in the United States due to the conflict the country had been in.

The Spanish-American war was the result of long-standing tensions between the United States and Spain. The biggest focal point of these tensions was the island of Cuba, which was controlled by Spain in the years leading up to the war. Document 1 summarizes the three most significant grievances the United States had against the Spanish in Cuba. As McKinley says, they disapprove of the “barbarities, bloodshed, starvation and horrible miseries now existing there.” That is, the brutal treatment of the Cuban people by the Spanish government. The American people wanted to help the Cubans overthrow their colonial rulers and gain independence, as the Americans had. McKinley also makes note of the necessity for the United States to protect its people living in Cuba. All of the violence there bred a very unsafe environment for American planters and businessmen residing in Cuba, and the U.S. government wanted to ensure their safety by seeking an end to the violence. Finally, American economic interests were in jeopardy. The U.S. traded with Cuba, as well as having institutions there such as plantations that brought in money, plantations that were put in danger by violence on the island. It was in American best interests to bring stability. Yellow journalism played a role as well. Newspapers wanted to print exciting news so
more people would read it, so they often stretched the truth. The media was hoping for a war, and printed news that made the public believe one was imminent, or that would make them call for one, such as reporting that the Spanish blew up the U.S.S. Maine. These factors combined to cause the United States to go to war with Spain. The end of the Spanish-American war made apparent the effects it had on the United States. Document 2b shows one of those effects—the U.S. acquisition of the Philippines. America gained the Philippines, as well as other territories, in the treaty that ended the war. By acquiring foreign territory as Document 3 describes, the United States elevated itself to the status of a world power. It had soundly beaten the Spanish and had acquired and retained control of overseas holdings. The United States became a power in other parts of the world as well, such as with its construction of the Panama Canal not long after the end of the war. By forcing the Spanish out of the Americas, the United States not only again adopted expansionist policies, but it also set a precedent for intervention in Latin America, which would become increasingly common in the early 20th century. Theodore Roosevelt’s encouraging the Panamanian Revolt against Columbia and strengthening the Monroe Doctrine made the United States an important regional power in the Western Hemisphere. The Spanish-American War was not the only war which had effects on the United States—the Korean War did as well, although the circumstances leading to American entrance were different. Following World War II, the United States began to become concerned about the expansion of communism in the world, and so adopted a policy of containment, hoping to prevent its spread. The invasion of South
Korea by North Korea was communism threatening to spread, so the United States entered “containment mode,” moving in with armed forces approved by the United Nations in order to prevent communism from taking over South Korea. Also, Document 4 describes the reaction of President Truman to the North Korean invasion in which he expresses his concerns over communist countries using force to further their cause. If the United States just let the North Koreans conquer the South, then it could set a precedent, leading to more communist conquests around the world. The United States had to move in to show that such aggression wouldn’t be allowed in Asia anymore than it would be allowed in Europe.

At the closing of the Korean War, the conflict had wrought changes on the United States. One effect is described in Document 6b—the strengthening of the U.S. position in the Cold War. By stopping the advance of the North Koreans, the U.S. showed that it was serious in its policy of containment, and was willing and able to use military force to secure that policy. The U.S. response to Korea showed the Soviet Union that the U.S. was serious, and that any sort of aggressive action would be responded to in kind. Also mentioned in Document 6b is the fact that the end of the Korean war required the United States to keep troops at the 38th parallel, in order to keep the peace, and ensure the conflict doesn’t start again. Document 5 tells of another effect. Due to Korea, the United States was forced to alter its foreign policy regarding communism. Now that it had been seen that communists were willing to use force the U.S. had to be prepared to fight, not just spend money. However, it also had to watch its step in Asia to avoid inciting a full-scale war with China. China had intervened when
General MacArthur attempted to take over all of North Korea. Wars have been fought throughout American history, in order to protect national security and further national interest. Wars, however, always have an effect on the United States—after they are finished—and the Spanish-American and Korean wars were no exceptions. The Spanish-American war brought America into the light as a global power while setting a precedent for intervention. The Korean War strengthened the US position in the Cold War, showing it was willing to use force to contain Communism, while also increasing tensions in Asia, especially with China.
Throughout the history of the United States, wars have been fought to protect national security and promote national interest. These wars have affected the United States and American society in many ways. These wars include the Spanish-American War, the Korean War and the Persian Gulf War.

The United States became involved in the Korean War to stop the spread of communism. Communist leaders invaded the free South Korea in an attempt to take control. In document 4, Truman was afraid that this would lead to more communist countries attacking free nations. Truman believed in the domino theory, if one country fell to communism, more would follow. The Korean War had many effects on American society. In document 5, America and North Korea both believed they won the war. North and South Korea was now divided at the 38th parallel. The United States was not the same; its strategic vision of Asia had changed, and its domestic political equation had been greatly altered. The Korean War also had positive effects. In document 6, America had proven that they would fight for freedom. Another positive is that South Korea is still a democratic ally. These are the effects of the Korean War on America.

The Persian Gulf War also was started to help a weaker nation. Saddam Hussein and Iraq invaded neighboring country Kuwait. In document 7, Bush began airstrikes on Iraq in response to the invasion of Kuwait. America hoped that Iraq would pull out of Kuwait and go back to a neutral state. In document 8, the Persian Gulf War affected America in many ways. Women had proved themselves in the conflict and the law restricting women in the military had been lifted. It negatively affected veterans as many soldiers came home with post...
traumatic stress disorder. Those are the ways the Persian Gulf War affected American society.

In conclusion, the United States have been involved in many conflicts to protect national security as well as other peoples rights. The war affected American security in many ways both negatively and positively. America is a stronger nation as a whole.

Practice Paper A—Score Level 3

The response:
- Develops all aspects of the task with some depth for the Korean War and the Persian Gulf War
- Is more descriptive than analytical (Korean War: proved to communist forces the United States was willing to fight to stop spread of communism; security and freedom of the United States depends on security and freedom of rest of world; Persian Gulf War: fought to enhance security and stability of the Gulf, a Middle Eastern region vital to American economy and world; unfinished business would require a second invasion by United States; increased United States Middle Eastern military occupation; women finally permitted on aircraft engaged in combat missions; growing physical and mental health problems reported by war veterans)
- Incorporates some relevant information from documents 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9
- Incorporates relevant outside information (Korean War: George Kennan’s theory of containment led to our involvement to contain communist forces; United Nations forces were mostly comprised of American soldiers; under Douglas MacArthur, tide of war shifted to American cause and to going above initial border; had North Koreans backpedaling to China; China pushed United Nations’ forces back; fighting to roll back communism proved to be MacArthur’s undoing; produced the globalization of United States commitments, a foreign policy dependent on United States engagement with world, many overseas bases, and billions of dollars in military spending; some thought United States should scale back its involvement in world affairs; containment questioned after war in Vietnam; Persian Gulf War: oil reserves in Middle East central to United States foreign policy in region; United States concerned about communism spreading into Middle East; United States concerned about growing power of dictators)
- Includes some relevant facts, examples, and details (Korean War: Korean peninsula; communist North Korea; noncommunist South Korea; 38th parallel; Persian Gulf War: Cold War; Saddam Hussein; George H. W. Bush; airstrikes against Iraq; Islamic opposition); includes an inaccuracy (Korean War: domino-effect theory led to our involvement in Korea)
- Demonstrates a satisfactory plan of organization; includes an introduction that restates the theme and lacks a conclusion

Conclusion: Overall, the response fits the criteria for Level 3. The discussion of historical circumstances leading to United States involvement in both wars is framed by document information and relevant outside information. The treatment of effects for both wars produces some good conclusions; however, additional facts and details would have supported these conclusions.
The response:

- Thoroughly develops all aspects of the task evenly and in depth for the Spanish-American War and the Korean War
- Is more analytical than descriptive: **Spanish-American War:** embroiled United States in many debates surrounding its stance on ethical matters of freedom; Spain’s control over its colonies was dwindling; some Americans raised questions about whether United States should do what was democratic and allow Philippines to rule themselves; Bryan argued that Philippines possessed own customs entirely unrelated to ours; promoted United States to position of an imperial power on the world stage; **Korean War:** after World War II, United States and Soviet Union were fierce adversaries; United States feared communism would threaten other free nations; South Korean government knew North seeking to unite the two under communism; costly war did not appear to accomplish much; war contained communism to North and demonstrated United Nations would take action when a member nation was threatened by aggression; United States eventual victory in the Cold War; sent a clear message that United States would fight for freedom
- Incorporates relevant information from documents 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6
- Incorporates substantial relevant outside information: **Spanish-American War:** conditions in reconcentration camps could not be ignored; American newspapers published exaggerated details of situation; belief that our duty to aid those kept from their natural liberties; money invested in Cuban sugar plantations; United States kept Philippines under their control by fighting a three-year war; **Korean War:** after failure to keep China from falling to communism, United States saw Korea as opportunity to prove policy of containment could stop communist aggression in Asia; with support of United Nations and United States, South Korea pushed North Korea back almost to the Chinese border; with support of USSR and intervention of Chinese army, North Korea successful in moving division back to 38th parallel; Truman’s popularity dropped dramatically and ended any chance of his running for reelection; animosity and threats of unification still come from North Korea
- Richly supports the theme with many relevant facts, examples, and details: **Spanish-American War:** President McKinley; USS Maine; hundreds of United States sailors died; property 6,000 miles away; Theodore Roosevelt; **Korean War:** contain spread of communism; war, a “draw”; President Clinton; United States troops still stationed in South Korea
- Demonstrates a logical and clear plan of organization; includes an introduction that states despite Washington’s Farewell Address, the United States has sometimes found itself in conflicts and a conclusion that states there can be no turning back to this advice because of our world power status

Conclusion: Overall, the response fits the criteria for Level 5. Relevant outside information supports document information in the discussion of historical circumstances for both wars. A critical appraisal of the effects of each war demonstrates a good understanding of the task.
Practice Paper C—Score Level 3

The response:

- Develops all aspects of the task with some depth for the Spanish-American War and the Korean War
- Is more descriptive than analytical (Spanish-American War: President McKinley did not want to go to war over Cuba but believed we owed it to our citizens in Cuba; America was transformed into a world power; America had a thirst for fulfilling a new manifest destiny; made Americans more nationalistic; Korean War: America’s society increasingly anti-communist; America became involved to help stop spread of communism to free nations; would help keep America safer because fewer communist countries and less influence and power for Soviet Union; America pushed containment as Soviet Union pushed communism; fears about spread of communism made some people worry about America’s internal security)
- Incorporates some relevant information from documents 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6
- Incorporates relevant outside information (Spanish-American War: America involved for economic national interests such as destruction of sugar plantations and other American investments; high tariffs meant America bought less sugar, which made situation on island worse; since Manifest Destiny achieved to California, America was looking for other areas for national expansion; America wanted to spread its values to the less fortunate and take up “White Man’s Burden” in territories such as Philippines; would be some time before America would give new territories their independence; Korean War: America did not trust Soviet Union and believed they were behind many of world’s trouble spots; McCarthy hearings held as a response from fear of infiltration of communists in government; war led to integration of military; helped pave way for civil rights movement of 1950s and 1960s)
- Includes some relevant facts, examples, and details (Spanish-American War: America decided to keep Philippines; Korean War: Marshall Plan; Truman Doctrine; ended in a draw; returning African American vets)
- Demonstrates a satisfactory plan of organization; includes an introduction and a conclusion that state effects of the Spanish-American War and the Korean War

Conclusion: Overall, the response fits the criteria for Level 3. An understanding of both wars is demonstrated through good historical references that are not supported by additional facts and details. The discussion of the outcome of both wars is strengthened by the inclusion of both short- and long-term effects.
Practice Paper D—Score Level 4

The response:

- Develops all aspects of the task for the Spanish-American War and the Korean War
- Is both descriptive and analytical (Spanish-American War: Americans wanted to help Cubans overthrow colonial rulers and gain independence; American economic interests in jeopardy; plantations in danger because of violence on the island; it was in America’s best interest to bring stability; by acquiring foreign territory, United States elevated itself to status of a world power; United States not only adopted expansionist policies but also set a precedent for intervention in Latin America which was increasingly common in early 20th century; Korean War: United States moved into South Korea with armed forces approved by United Nations to prevent communism from moving into South Korea; if United States let North Koreans conquer South, it could set a precedent leading to more communist conquests; strengthened United States position in Cold War; United States showed it was serious about containment and willing to use military force to secure policy; Korea made United States alter its foreign policy; United States had to watch its step in Asia and not incite a full-scale war with China)
- Incorporates relevant information from documents 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6
- Incorporates relevant outside information (Spanish-American War: plantations brought in money; yellow journalism played a role as newspapers wanted to print exciting news so truth was often stretched; media hoping for a war and printed news that made public believe war was imminent; newspapers reported Spanish blew up USS Maine; Korean War: United States adopted a policy of containment hoping to prevent spread of communism; United States had to show aggression was not allowed in Asia any more than it was allowed in Europe)
- Supports the theme with relevant facts, examples, and details (Spanish-American War: United States acquired Philippines; Panama Canal; Monroe Doctrine; Korean War: President Truman; United States troops at 38th parallel after war; General MacArthur)
- Demonstrates a logical and clear plan of organization; includes an introduction that is a restatement of the theme and a conclusion that summarizes the effects of the Spanish-American War and the Korean War

Conclusion: Overall, the response fits the criteria for Level 4. Document information is used to frame the response and serves as support for outside historical references. Although insightful analytic statements indicate a good understanding of the issues surrounding each war, the response lacks the details needed for a higher score.
Practice Paper E—Score Level 2

The response:
- Minimally develops all aspects of the task for the Korean War and the Persian Gulf War
- Is primarily descriptive (Korean War: communist leaders invaded free South Korea in an attempt to take control; Truman afraid invasion would lead to more communist countries attacking free nations; America and North Korea both believed they had won war; America had proven they would fight for freedom; South Korea is still a democratic ally; Persian Gulf War: started to help a weaker nation; America hoped Iraq would pull out of Kuwait; women had proven themselves and law restricting women in military lifted; negatively affected veterans as many soldiers came home with Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder)
- Includes limited relevant information from documents 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8
- Presents no relevant outside information
- Includes few relevant facts, examples, and details (Korean War: divided at 38th parallel; Persian Gulf War: Saddam Hussein; Bush began air strikes); includes an inaccuracy (Korean War: Truman believed in domino theory, which said if one country fell to communism more would follow)
- Demonstrates a general plan of organization; includes an introduction that copies the historical context and a conclusion that is slightly beyond a restatement of the theme

Conclusion: Overall, the response fits the criteria for Level 2. A methodical presentation of document information is the basis of a discussion that demonstrates a basic understanding of the task. However, the discussion of the Persian Gulf War lacks supporting facts and details.
United States History and Government Specifications
June 2016

Part I
Multiple-Choice Questions by Standard

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Notes:

Part I and Part II scoring information is found in Volume 1 of the Rating Guide.

Part III scoring information is found in Volume 2 of the Rating Guide.
Submitting Teacher Evaluations of the Test to the Department

Suggestions and feedback from teachers provide an important contribution to the test development process. The Department provides an online evaluation form for State assessments. It contains spaces for teachers to respond to several specific questions and to make suggestions. Instructions for completing the evaluation form are as follows:


2. Select the test title.

3. Complete the required demographic fields.

4. Complete each evaluation question and provide comments in the space provided.

5. Click the SUBMIT button at the bottom of the page to submit the completed form.