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### Academic ESL World History Unit 2.10. Opinion Essay

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## 10. ESSAY 2

**OPINION ESSAY: What can we learn from the Greeks and Romans? What could they have learned from us?**

### **Ask yourself:**

Do I know enough? Titles, authors? Do I need quotes from my references? Be precise and offer proper language and name of sources.

### **Useful vocabulary and expressions:**

#### **Opinion:**

I believe that...

In my opinion,

It is important to point out that...

I think it is important to remember that...

I agree with the author..

**GRAMMAR:** Use dependent clauses carefully as you have studied in this unit. Apply phrases and connectors expressing cause and effect:

Since

Because

This is the reason why..

Therefore,

As a consequent,

Consequently,

Keep paying attention to verb endings, adjective-endings and adverbs. Go over your work carefully before submitting it. Always use your best language.

### **Think about the following as you complete your draft:**

1) Make sure you have a clear topic. Introduce the topic clearly in your intro. Do you have a statement at the end that reflects your topic?

2) Did you introduce your sources, the readings, the video, in your introduction? Mention them **ONES**. Mention author and the **FULL** title if available. Describe them very briefly, only a few sentences.

2) Do your paragraphs have a main idea? Do you have a sentence at the beginning of the paragraph that introduces the main idea of the paragraph (topic sentence)?

3) Refer to the sources again in the paragraphs. Don't give the full name!

Example- Cartledge claims.... He states that... points out.... The author believes... the reading explains how... the article describes how.... (Only use the word "article" if it truly is an article.)

4) Check your verb tenses and singular and plural!

5) Use new vocabulary, but **DON'T COPY TEXT**. We will discuss quotes and citation skills later in the course.

### **ESSAY 2.**

#### **OPINION ESSAY: WHAT CAN WE LEARN FROM THE GREEKS AND ROMANS OR WHAT COULD THEY HAVE LEARNED FROM US?**

Preparation Sheet - Submit this document with your essay!

1. Answer the questions below in full sentences. Think carefully about your answers.

Why was the city of Pompeii lost for 2000 years?

What makes Pompeii unique for scientists?

What do you know about the city of Pompeii **socially, economically, and culturally** after watching the video? What strikes you as the most interesting?

The knowledge about Pompeii and the research we are following in the documentary is based on evidence and research activities. What makes up the evidence? Which scientists and researchers are part of the excavations? Listen carefully to who participates in the research.

2. Brainstorming: Go over ALL your notes, writing and assignments about Athens, Pompeii and the Romans. What strikes you as the most interesting ideas or achievements? Take notes in the box below. Do not write in full sentences.

3. Essay instructions: read these very carefully

**Choose one of the questions for your essay.**

1. What can we learn from the Greeks and Romans?
2. What could they have learned from us and our society?
3. How would you answer the questions you have chosen?

**Take notes before you continue!**

## **Essay organization:**

1. Write an introduction in which you **briefly introduce** the main aspects of Greek and Roman society. Mention some of your sources. Cite authors or if you do not know mention the title of the video etc. Avoid details. Finish your introduction with a thesis statement.
2. Paragraph 1. Summarize your knowledge about the Greek and Roman Society. Which aspects are important? (**Use your own writing! See your writing about the citizen and your answers in the listening exercise.**)
3. Paragraph 2. Discuss one aspect of your answer to the question you selected.
4. Paragraph 3. Discuss a different aspect of your answer to the question.
5. Write a conclusion. Be sure that your conclusion involves the ideas you first mentioned in your intro and discussed in your paragraphs.