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| **Contextualization (2-3 sentences minimum)**  Relate the prompt to broader historical context  *Ex: A long time ago, in a galaxy far, far, away it was a period of civil war. Rebel spaceships, striking from a hidden base, have won their first victory against the evil Galactic Empire. During the battle, rebel spies managed to steal secret plans to the Empire’s ultimate weapon. Pursued by the Empire’s sinister agents, Princess Leia escapes with the plans that can save her people and restore freedom to the galaxy"* |
| **Thesis Statement (1-2 sentences maximum)**  An HISTORICALLY DEFENSIBLE CLAIM that can be argued  *Ex: Despites her best intentions, ultimately, the actions of Princess Leia and the rebels will lead to a massive loss of life and disruption of unity rather than creating peace and harmony in the galaxy.* |
| **Body Paragraph (4-7 sentences)**  Claim 1 in your essay  Topic Sentence (should match your thesis)  An Example of this is……  Explain the example  The reason this happened is because…….  *Ex: During the period of galactic Civil War the rebellion movement led to massive loss of life. For example when Princess Leia is captured by Darth Vader after she steals the plans to the Empire’s weapon, the Death Star, she refuses to reveal the location of these plans. As a result, Darth Vader is forced to destroy her home planet of Alderaan leading to the death of millions and a disruption of the force. The reason this happened is because Princess Leia opted to join the rebel movement rather than working with the Empire to maintain order in the universe.* |
| **Body Paragraph (4-7 sentences)**  Claim 2 in your essay  Topic Sentence (should match your thesis)  An Example of this is……  Explain the example  The reason this happened is because……. |
| **Conclusion (2-3 sentences)**  Connect back to the thesis  Do **ONE** of the following:  Why is this important or historically significant?  Can we connect what happened to some other time or place in history?  What might be the COUNTER ARGUMENT and why is it weak?  *Ex: Many historians might argue that the rebellion was justified in the face of the alleged human rights abuses and oppression of Empirical rule. Can the empire’s tyrannical rule be seen as forcing the actions of the rebels and thus, the real blame for the loss of life in the galaxy lay at the doorstep of the Emperor and his minions. Such arguments shift blame away from the clear actions of the rebels in participating in espionage, theft, and promoting open rebellion against a system that was legally put into place through the votes of the citizens of the Republic. Ultimately the blood of millions is on the hands of the rebels.* |