

NAME: _____

CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS ESSAY RUBRIC

Directions: Throughout this unit, we have studied and evaluated MANY different topics. Now you will have the opportunity to demonstrate your learning as we close out this unit. **This essay option requires you to evaluate whether or not Christopher Columbus was a hero or a villain.** During class today, you will write a 5 paragraph essay determining whether or not you believe Columbus was a hero or a villain, using sources provided in class and ones you found on your own (refer to the annotated bibliography assignment). Use the rubric to guide you in your writing. You will write this essay on google docs and share it with the teacher. You must grade this rubric and submit it to the teacher. We expect you to take ownership of your work, self-assess, and reflect on how you performed.

If you have selected this essay option, you may use your annotated bibliography and corresponding sources from that. You are not permitted to talk during this essay. Listening to peaceful, uplifting music is permitted so long as it does not distract those around you.

CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS ESSAY RUBRIC	4 Advanced Mastery	3 Mastery	2 Emerging	1 Try Again
SENTENCE Always answer in a complete sentence (containing a subject and a verb).	All sentences are complete.	Most sentences are complete.	Some sentences are complete.	Sentences are incomplete.
LENGTH The expectation is that the essay should be double-spaced and at least 2 pages long.	My essay is double-spaced and covers at least two pages.	My essay is double-spaced and covers 1 ½ pages.	My essay is double-spaced and covers just over 1 page.	My essay is double-spaced and only covers 1 page. I must add more.
MECHANICS Use correct capitalization, punctuation, grammar, and spelling.	No mechanical errors present.	1-5 mechanical errors are present.	6-10 mechanical errors are present.	11 or more mechanical errors are present.
SUPPORT Support your answer with accurate pieces of textual evidence (cite sources where applicable).	The answer is clearly supported by sufficient textual evidence, using at least 3 sources.	The answer is supported by some textual evidence, using 2 sources.	The answer is supported by some textual evidence, using just 1 source.	No textual evidence is used in the answer.
HOOK Capture the reader's attention with a strong hook (short story, quote, etc.)	The opening paragraph begins with a captivating hook that is referenced at least twice throughout the paper.	The opening paragraph has a good hook, but is only referenced once throughout the paper.	The opening paragraph has a very short, ineffective hook that is never referenced again throughout the paper.	No hook.