

Mexican-American War Letter to Constituents: Rubric
CQ: Should the United States, in 1846, declare war on Mexico?

Paragraph 1: Summarize the relevant events surrounding ... _____ x 2 = _____

Assigned *factual content-specific material* is used appropriately
Paragraphs are historically accurate and in a *student's own words*
Shows *original* understanding of content discussed, learned in class
Events are correctly annotated and dated in chronological order

Paragraph 2: Argument that the United States SHOULD... _____ x 1 = _____

Paragraphs are historically accurate and in a *student's own words*
Shows *original* understanding of content discussed, learned in class

Paragraph 3: Argument you can that the United States SHOULD NOT... _____ x 1 = _____

Paragraphs are historically accurate and in a *student's own words*
Shows *original* understanding of content discussed, learned in class

Paragraph 4: Now describe your actual decision... _____ x 2 = _____

explanation *why* with three or four different, additional, good reasons.
decision shows you have considered the arguments *of the other position*
explanation what circumstances need to exist in order for the United States to be
justifies in declaring war against *any nation*
describe why you believe those reasons

Total Score = _____ / 15 points

Grading Scale:

1 point = Acceptable: Meets few expectations to create original, informative, meaningful academic work while containing significant errors or omissions.

2 points = Competent: Meets most expectations to create original, informative, meaningful academic work while containing slight errors or omissions.

3 points = Spectacular: Meets or exceeds all expectations to create original, informative, meaningful academic work