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CP World History

Mrs. Pool

“To what extent is the Neolithic Revolution an economic turning point in world history?”

1. **Historical context introduction.** This should be four to five sentences. Set the stage for what was happening in the world leading up to your event. Start zoomed-out, then inch closer until you get to your thesis.

*Around 10,000 BCE, humans began grouping into small, family-based tribes. Tribes were hunters and foragers, and moved around in search of food and shelter. Around 8,000 BCE, the world climate warmed, and people began to experiment with growing their own food, rather than gathering food. Independently, around the world, the advent of farming gradually occurred. Farming led to the rise of villages and a world population increase due to a steady food supply.*

1. **Thesis statement.** It needs to analytical – you need to tell me why and how. If you want to have a counterargument in your essay – which is required for an A paper – consider including a counterargument in your thesis. Examples are below:

*The Neolithic Revolution was an economic turning point to a major extent because it led to the creation of an agriculturally based economy and the specialization of labor.*

*Although the Neolithic Revolution did not have an immediate religious impact, the Neolithic Revolution was a economic turning point to a major extent, because it led to the creation of an agriculturally based economy and the specialization of labor.*

*Many historians consider the Industrial Revolution the largest economic turning point in history because it replaced human-based labor with machine-based labor. However, the Neolithic Revolution was a larger economic turning point, because it led to the creation of an agriculturally based economy and the specialization of labor.*

1. **Background information**

Expand out on the historical context a bit more here. This should be about a paragraph, depending on your topic. If your topic was “the end of apartheid in South Africa,” you would need to explain racial segregation around the world, for example. Need help? Ask me!

1. **The event itself**

A paragraph or so about the event itself. Explain what it was. Use specific evidence to support.

1. **Counterargument**

For you to receive an A on the analysis piece of this paper, you must include a counterargument. This is otherwise optional.

* 1. Option 1: disproving your argument by articulating how the opposite is true

*Not everyone has adopted agriculture – there are still persisting pastoral nomadic societies in the world…*

*Agriculture was bad for humanity and had more negative effects than positive…*

* 1. Option 2: comparing to a larger turning point

*The Industrial Revolution was a larger economic turning point than the Neolithic Revolution because ….*

* 1. Option 3: evaluating a difference SPICE theme for your event

*While the Neolithic Revolution was an economic turning point to a major extent, it was a religious turning point to a moderate extent, because…*

1. **Answering the prompt**
   1. This should be multiple paragraphs and pages – it is the bulk of your essay
   2. Identify specific ways in which it was or was not a turning point
      1. Use the word “because” a LOT
   3. Support your argument with evidence
   4. Tie all of your evidence back to the prompt