**Rubric**

**Essay MT Understands how geography affects government and culture**

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| **Criteria** | **Excellence 4.0** | **Merit 3.5** | **Proficient 3.0** | **Not Proficient < 3** |
| Understands geography’s impact on culture and government  | Produces a detailed essay that clearly highlights the effect of geography on culture and government . Uses wide variety of content and examples to help demonstrate understanding of the MT.  | Produces a detailed essay that highlights the effect of geography on culture and government . Uses variety of content and examples to help demonstrate understanding of the MT.  | Produces an effective essay that highlights the effect of geography on culture and government . Uses some content and examples to help demonstrate understanding of the MT.  | Essay is not effective in highlighting the effect of geography on culture and government . Content and examples are not used to help demonstrate understanding of the MT.  |
| Organizes ideas effectively | The presentation is well organized and has a sensible flow that helps to communicate understanding. Work is produced chronologically | The presentation is organized and has a flow that helps to communicate understanding. Work is produced chronologically with only minor mistakes | The presentation is organized and has an effective flow that helps to communicate understanding.  | Presentation is poorly organized and does not have an effective flow without communicating understanding  |
| Work is proofread and edited | Work is free of grammar and spelling errors and uses an appropriate level of academic vocabulary  | Work has few grammar and spelling errors and uses some appropriate academic vocabulary  | Work has some grammar and spelling errors that do not interfere with the presentation.  | Work has many grammar and spelling errors that interfere with the presentation.  |
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