Response Essay 1

The Homestead Strike

Response Essays:

Part of being a good historian is being able to read historical documents, analyze, and interpret them to paint an accurate (as much as possible) picture of the time period. At least three times per marking period you will be asked to take documents that we have discussed in class and do a further analysis of them to show your understanding of the events as well as the impact that event may have had.

Directions: Using the documents pertaining to the Homestead Steel Strike of 1892 you will write a 2-3 page typed essay discussing the causes and results and future impact of the strike. The future impact is where your analysis comes in. Your paper will include a title page and reference page in correct APA format.

A couple of things to remember:

* Check your grammar
* Don’t use people’s first names, its either their last name or the entire name
* No 1st person – ever.
* Don’t start your conclusion with “in conclusion’ or start your paper with “I’m going to tell you about” or “This paper is going to discuss” – I think you get the picture.

I am sure there are other things that bug me, but this is a good start.

Grading (this will be the standard for all response papers you write):

**A**

* Requirements are met
* Has cogent and incisive analysis that reflects full understanding of source material. Shows original insight and creative thinking. Tells us not only “what” and “why” but also “why this matters.”
* Well-written and well-organized, with a clear statement of thesis at the beginning and consistent and clear references throughout to how the evidence and analysis relates to main thesis.
* Clearly and consistently cited using APA formatting

**B**

* Requirements are met
* Well-written and well-organized, with a clear statement of thesis at the beginning and consistent and clear references throughout to how the evidence and analysis relates to main thesis.
* Clearly and consistently footnoted using a widely recognized style, such as MLA or Chicago.
* Demonstrates that you have read the source material and understand its main arguments, but lacks analytic rigor and does not provide new insights into the material.

**C**

* Demonstrates that you have read the source material and understand its main arguments, but lacks analytic rigor and does not provide new insights into the material.
* Sub-par writing and sloppy organization.

**D**

* Sub-par writing and sloppy organization.
* Demonstrates partial or no mastery of the material.

**F**

* Sub-par writing and sloppy organization.
* Demonstrates partial or no mastery of the material.
* Fails to meet the basic length and topic requirements of the assignment.