**Instructional Process for Writing a Paragraph**

1. Evaluate the focal point of the prompt. Brainstorm as many facts that relate to the focal point. Create a graphic organizer for this step.

2. Review your brainstorm to see where your strongest facts (Concrete Details) are to support your answer & value judgment for the prompt; you need 3 strong facts (CDs) in a paragraph written in JANE format (historical writing format, NOT English format).

TS

CD1

CD2

CD3

CM

3. Write a topic sentence (TS) that responds directly to the prompt. You must include a value judgment which indicates “how much” or is a measure that will help you analyze and argue the prompt and support the argument points (CDs) you will make in the paragraph.

4. Write your 3 CDs after the topic sentence. Be sure to explain/expand on each CD to show depth of knowledge. Use transitional words moving from 1 CD to another.

5. Write a commentary (CM) statement (opinion statement) that connects the CDs and the value judgment. This is not a restatement of the topic sentence. It should be written in the 3rd person.

**Paragraph Grading Rubric:**

TS – answers the prompt directly & includes a value judgment (1 pts)

CD1 – historically accurate fact that supports topic sentence and demonstrates understanding of fact (1 pt)

CD2 – historically accurate fact that supports topic sentence and demonstrates understanding of fact (1 pt)

CD3 – historically accurate fact that supports topic sentence and demonstrates understanding of fact (1 pt)

CM – provides understanding/explanation of significance of CDs and the short term/long term impact (1 pt)

Proofread for spelling, grammar & punctuation errors (1 pt)

**Points worth = 6 pts**