

General Comments on the Spring Essay

ToK 11

- PT means prescribed topic which is the prompt you are writing to.
- I am not proofreading. You must thoroughly proofread your final essay regardless of what I wrote on it.
- Always cite the original source if it is available to you.
- Make sure to distinguish between contrasting perspectives of the past (ex: American and British during the Revolutionary war) and contrasting perspectives in history as a discipline (ex: different interpretations of what motivated the framers of the Constitution). The PT deals with the latter exclusively.
- This is not a pro/con paper. Simply establishing that there are different perspectives does not address the prompt - you must explain how different perspective encourage or hinder disciplinary health.

- Pronouns must have clear antecedents.
- When the reader has finished reading your introduction, they should know exactly what the paper will be about and the structure of the argument.
- Simple, straightforward constructions are always better than complex wordy constructions. Your goal is to communicate. Always keep that goal in mind.
- If I indicated that you needed to proofread for clarity, that means clarity was a major problem. Don't assume I have marked all instances of disclarity.
- You are junior in an advanced course. I expect that you understand how to use the internet properly. (blind google searches are not your friend.)
- Authenticity, authenticity, authenticity.