

# Enduring Issues Essay Example Global History



## Enduring Issues Essay Example: Global History/Geography

Power, the ability to influence or control people's behavior, is significant because it affects many and has long-lasting effects. The reigns of King Louis XVI, Robespierre, and Napoleon greatly impacted the French people. The French Revolution showed that people can bring about change and challenge authority. Power is an enduring issue because, throughout history, we have seen nations across the world have governments wielding varying degrees of power. Sometimes, as in the case of the French Revolution, people become unhappy with their leaders who abuse their power, ultimately causing people to revolt. For example, in the 18th century, the French Third Estate overthrew King Louis XVI and a few years later, did the same to the French dictator, Maximillian Robespierre. The French Revolution was largely inspired by the American Revolution just a few years before it. The American Revolution set an example for the French underclass that it was possible for people to unite and change their government and its level of power over them.

King Louis XVI believed he derived his power from God and wielded absolute power over his unsatisfied French subjects. The French (majority) were discontent because of the Old Regime, the social hierarchy that separated the French people into three Estates, or classes, as well as the unfair system of taxation that put the burden of taxes on the Third Estate. The ideas of the Enlightenment, as well as the success of the American Revolution, inspired the French to overthrow their absolute monarch and form a new government. According to Friedman and Foner in *A Genetic Approach to Modern European History*, King Louis XVI was "completely oblivious to the rising tide of popular discontent..." While the King and Queen enjoyed lavish parties at the magnificent Palace of Versailles, many French people were starving due to the famine of 1789. After the King refused to change the traditional system of voting in the Estates General, members of the Third Estate broke away and formed the National Assembly. The National Assembly claimed that they were the legitimate government of France and would enact laws in the name of the French people. The members of the National Assembly took the Tennis Court Oath in which they pledged to continue meeting until a new Constitution was written for France. In 1791, the National Assembly adopted the Constitution of 1791, creating a limited constitutional monarchy and expanding rights for middle to upper-class males. In 1792, the Revolution turned radical with the creation of the National Convention. The National Convention put King Louis XVI on trial for treason. He was found guilty and beheaded by the guillotine. The same fate met his wife, Queen Marie Antoinette just a few months later. The people had overthrown their absolute monarchy but unbeknownst to them would replace him with a radical dictator named Maximillian Robespierre.

Power can be dynamic, and changing, and it can greatly influence people. The French people went from having an absolute monarchy under King Louis XVI to a dictatorship under Maximillian Robespierre to an emperor under Napoleon. From studying French history, one can see that people can challenge authority and bring about change. The idea of challenging power is enduring because people have challenged their governments in different regions during different periods. The American Revolution, largely inspired by the Enlightenment, inspired the French people to rise and overthrow their government.

**Enduring issues essay example global history** is a critical concept in the study of global history, serving as a method for students to explore and analyze recurring themes, problems, and challenges that have shaped human experiences across time and geography. This article delves into the nature of enduring issues, how to structure an enduring issues essay, and provides an example to illustrate the approach.

# Understanding Enduring Issues in Global History

Enduring issues refer to significant challenges or problems that have persisted over time, transcending individual historical events and affecting various societies worldwide. These issues are integral to understanding the complexities of human interactions, governance, economics, and culture.

Some key characteristics of enduring issues include:

- They persist across different time periods and geographical locations.
- They can manifest in various forms, influenced by cultural, social, and political contexts.
- They often lead to conflict, change, or evolution in societies.
- They invite diverse perspectives and interpretations from historians and scholars.

Common examples of enduring issues in global history include:

- Conflict and cooperation between nations
- The struggle for human rights and equality
- Economic disparity and wealth distribution
- Environmental challenges and sustainability
- The quest for power and governance

## Structuring an Enduring Issues Essay

Writing an enduring issues essay involves a systematic approach to effectively analyze and communicate the complexity of a chosen issue. Below is a recommended structure for an enduring issues essay:

### 1. Introduction

The introduction should provide context for the enduring issue being discussed. It should state the significance of the issue within global history and outline the main points that will be addressed in the essay.

## 2. Definition of the Enduring Issue

In this section, clearly define the enduring issue. Explain its origins, characteristics, and why it has persisted over time. Use historical examples to support your definition.

## 3. Historical Examples

This section should explore specific historical cases that illustrate the enduring issue. Each example should highlight different aspects of the issue and demonstrate its impact on societies. Consider using the following format for clarity:

1. **Example 1:** Detail the historical context, key events, and outcomes related to the enduring issue.
2. **Example 2:** Discuss another instance that showcases the issue from a different perspective or era.
3. **Example 3:** Provide a contemporary example that connects past events to current situations.

## 4. Analysis of Impact

Analyze how the enduring issue has shaped human history. Discuss its consequences on social structures, political systems, and cultural developments. This section should focus on both negative and positive outcomes.

## 5. Conclusion

Summarize the main points of the essay, restating the significance of the enduring issue in the broader context of global history. Reflect on what lessons can be learned from this issue and its relevance in today's world.

## Example of an Enduring Issues Essay: Economic Inequality

To illustrate the process of writing an enduring issues essay, let's consider the enduring issue of economic inequality, which has been a significant challenge throughout history.

# 1. Introduction

Economic inequality, the disparity in wealth and resources among individuals and groups, remains a pressing issue in societies around the world. This essay will explore the origins of economic inequality, its manifestations throughout different historical periods, and its ongoing impact on social and political dynamics.

## 2. Definition of Economic Inequality

Economic inequality refers to the unequal distribution of wealth and resources within a society. Historically, this issue has roots in various factors, including class stratification, colonial exploitation, and systemic discrimination. It persists today as a result of globalization, technological advancements, and policy choices that favor certain groups over others.

## 3. Historical Examples

### 1. Example 1: The Industrial Revolution

- The Industrial Revolution marked a significant shift in production and labor, leading to the emergence of a wealthy industrial class while many workers faced harsh conditions.
- Consequently, this period saw the rise of labor movements advocating for workers' rights, highlighting the struggles associated with economic disparity.

### 2. Example 2: Colonialism

- Colonial powers often extracted resources from colonized nations, creating wealth for themselves while impoverishing local populations.
- This economic exploitation resulted in long-term impacts that continue to affect former colonies today.

### 3. Example 3: Modern Globalization

- In the contemporary era, globalization has contributed to economic growth but has also widened the gap between the rich and the poor, both within and between countries.
- Disparities in access to education, technology, and healthcare illustrate how economic inequality is perpetuated in the globalized world.

## **4. Analysis of Impact**

Economic inequality has profound implications for social cohesion, political stability, and economic development. Societies with high levels of inequality often experience increased tensions, leading to social unrest and conflict. Conversely, addressing economic disparity can foster greater social mobility and cohesion, creating a more equitable society.

## **5. Conclusion**

Economic inequality is an enduring issue that significantly shapes human history and continues to be relevant today. By examining its historical context and ongoing impact, we gain valuable insights into the challenges of creating a just society. Addressing this issue requires a multifaceted approach, involving policy changes, educational reforms, and a commitment to social justice.

## **Conclusion**

The enduring issues essay example in global history serves as a powerful tool for students and scholars to explore complex themes that have influenced human experiences across time and space. By understanding and analyzing these issues, we can better appreciate the interconnectedness of historical events and the ongoing challenges that societies face. Through effective essay structuring and critical analysis, individuals can contribute to the discourse surrounding these important topics, fostering a deeper understanding of our world.

## **Frequently Asked Questions**

## **What is an enduring issue in global history?**

An enduring issue in global history is a long-lasting challenge or problem that has affected societies over time, such as conflict, inequality, or environmental changes.

## **How can I identify an enduring issue for my essay?**

To identify an enduring issue, look for themes that recur across different time periods and regions, such as migration, war, or human rights, and consider their impact on various cultures.

## **What are some examples of enduring issues in global history?**

Examples include the struggle for human rights, the impact of imperialism, the consequences of war, and the challenges of economic inequality.

## **What is the structure of an enduring issues essay?**

An enduring issues essay typically includes an introduction that defines the issue, body paragraphs that provide historical examples and evidence, and a conclusion that reflects on the significance of the issue.

## **How do I use historical evidence in my enduring issues essay?**

Use specific examples from different time periods and places to illustrate how the enduring issue has manifested and evolved, citing primary and secondary sources to support your claims.

## **Why is it important to study enduring issues?**

Studying enduring issues helps us understand the complexities of human behavior and societal development, allowing us to learn from the past to address contemporary challenges.

## **What are some common mistakes to avoid in writing about enduring issues?**

Common mistakes include being too vague, failing to connect historical examples to the issue, and not providing enough analysis or reflection on the significance of the issue.

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