

PAPER ASSIGNMENTS

1. George Herring asserts that “throughout its history the United States has taken a distinctive approach toward foreign policy.” What was that distinctive approach for the period from 1865 to 1919? What were the assumed ideas and shared values of U.S. citizens toward the rest of the world?
2. Ask an older adult or two—your parents, grandparents, old Uncle Ernie—why President Harry S. Truman authorized the atomic bombing of Japan. Do these esteemed people know the full story?
3. Who caused the Cuban Missile Crisis? Does anyone deserve credit for preventing a Soviet-American nuclear conflict and the end of human civilization?
4. In any war, there are innocent victims, euphemistically dubbed “collateral damage.” Why did so many Latin Americans suffer and die during the Cold War?
5. In his second inaugural address, on 20 January 2005, President George W. Bush declared that the central aim of U.S. foreign policy would be to abolish tyranny and spread freedom around the world. So, what went wrong in Iraq?

Due Dates:

Herring Paper	February 11
Walker Paper	March 6
Munton & Welch Paper	April 1
Rabe Paper	April 15
Finkel Paper	April 24

All students must submit three (3) papers. Students can submit four (4) or five (5) papers. Papers must be delivered in “hard-copy” form. No EMAIL attachments. Please note that I do not accept late papers. All students must submit original work. Plagiarism is a serious offense.

Suggested Length: Three-to four-typewritten pages (750-1,000 words), double spaced.

ADVICE:

1. Write simple, declarative sentences. Omit needless words.
2. Write in the active voice.
3. Remember that verbs are best and nouns are second best. Avoid adverbs.
4. Concentrate on writing strong topical sentences for each paragraph.
5. Try to avoid using forms of the verb “to be.” Eliminate “to be” from your topical sentences.
6. Do not use contractions. Distinguish between “its” and “it’s.”
7. The word “felt” does not mean “believed” or “thought.”

8. Buy a copy and study The Elements of Style by William Strunk and E.B. White.