

Great Society DBQ Essay Writing Guide / 20th 2B U.S. History

Instructions – Use the sentence frames below and the two articles on the Great Society to help you write an essay response to the essay question below. Insert your information and opinions where you see **{parentheses}**.

Essay Question = Was the Great Society successful or not?

Introduction Paragraph

In 1963, the richest nation in the world had **{insert the %}** percent of her citizens living below the **{finish the sentence}**! This is **{acceptable / unacceptable}** because poor people should **{fill the blank}** _____. In 1963, Lyndon Johnson became President and started his **{name the program}** program which would help American citizens succeed, especially **{say which group of people}** people. The Great Society **{was / was not}** successful because **{state one reason from the articles to support your opinion}**, **{state a second reason from the articles to support your opinion}**, and **{state a third reason from the articles to support your opinion}**.

Body Paragraph #1

The **{name the first reason from your thesis, which is the last sentence of the intro paragraph}** is an example of how the Great Society **{was / was not}** successful. The **{name the specific Great Society program}** is **{good / bad}** because it **{tell what the program does}**. As stated by **{state the author's last name}**, “**_____ {include a quote from the article that supports your opinion} _____**.” **_____ {write one more sentence explaining the meaning of the quote} _____**. The **{name the second reason from your thesis statement}** is another Great Society program that **{was / was not}** successful. It was **{good / bad}** because it **{explain what the program did}**. According to **{name the author of the article}**, “**_____ {include a quote from the article that supports your opinion} _____**.” **_____ {write another sentence explaining the meaning of the quote} _____**.

Body Paragraph #2

The **{name the third reason or program from your thesis statement}** is another example of how the Great Society **{was / was not}** successful. The **{name the Great Society program}** is **{good / bad}** because it **{tell what it does}**. **{State the last name of the author}** says, “**_____ {include a quote from the article that supports your argument} _____**.” **_____ {write another sentence explaining the meaning of the quote} _____**.

Conclusion Paragraph

_____ {Restate your thesis statement in different words than in the introduction paragraph.} _____. Although the Great Society **{was / was not}** successful, the issue of taking care of citizens who cannot do so themselves is still controversial today. American citizens are still divided on the issue of welfare programs, as can be seen in **{explain one example of a welfare program that people are divided on today}**.