

Paper 2

Due 8/5/2009

Write a three to four-page essay addressing one of the following three essay choices and using all of the books assigned for that choice.

1. In *The Communist Manifesto*, Karl Marx and Frederick Engels analyzed the situation of the working class and predicted how it would react to its economic exploitation. Compare their conclusions with the actual experiences of the workers in Alfred Kelly, ed., *The German Worker*. Did Marx and Engels get it right? Why or why not?

Important: When you use Kelly's book, analyze the memoirs themselves, that is, the workers' own words, not Kelly's introduction, to which you should refer only for any background information you need.

2. We comprehend social history along many lines, including gender and class. Sometimes gender might seem to be the most important factor; other times class plays that role; and still other times it is impossible to separate the two. What roles did gender and class play for the fictional female characters in Henrik Ibsen's *A Doll's House*? What roles did they play for the women in *The German Worker*? Compare the experiences of women in *The German Worker* with the images and experiences of women as Ibsen portrayed them in *A Doll's House*.

Important: When you use Kelly's book, analyze the memoirs themselves, that is, the workers' own words, not Kelly's introduction, to which you should refer only for any background information you need.

3. Marx, Engels, and M. K. Gandhi offered strong criticisms of the effects of industrialization and modern capitalism on society. Analyze and compare their respective criticisms in *The Communist Manifesto* and *Hind Swaraj*.

When you do this analysis, it is important to choose similarities and differences that go to the heart of each text's central message. Only then will the comparison have value. Often the same topic can be trivial or meaningful, depending on what you do with it. Example: You can talk about Gandhi not liking trains, but if you stop at that, you will leave the reader scratching his head. If you relate Gandhi's criticism of trains to his overall understanding of what had happened to society, you will be on your way to something that is relevant.

Further details, many of which have changed since the last time:

1. The paper is to be three to four pages long, using a standard twelve-point font, one-inch margins, and double spacing. I have given you an extra page of space this time, but I will be perfectly happy with strong three-page papers. Under no circumstances may the papers be longer than four pages.

Hist 34-20

Stoneman

7/28/2009

2. Besides following the standard rules of good academic prose, please heed the “Ten Commandments of Good Historical Writing” by Theron F. Schlabach at <http://courseweb.stthomas.edu/gwschlabach/10commnd.htm>. I take these rules seriously.
3. To cite your sources, you may use either parenthetical citations, like the last time, or you may use footnotes following MLA, Chicago, or Turabian guidelines. For further information on footnotes, see today’s post on the blog, “Citing Your Sources.”
4. Submit the paper electronically before midnight on the day it is due. Send a Word document, an OpenOffice document, an RTF file, or a PDF file. Late papers will be marked down by as much as five points per day starting the morning after the midnight deadline.
5. Unlike with the first papers, my feedback on final papers tends to be minimal, because many students are just happy to be finished with the course. That said, I am happy to supply detailed feedback after the grading is done to anyone who requests it.