Now that you have done a lot of research on Hammurabi and his Code of Laws it is time to pick a side. Look at the life that Hammurabi had as King of Babylon, are there factors that could have influenced him to create the code of laws that he did? Do you think his laws are fair, cruel or a little of both. You will write a 6th grade expository essay that is going to state facts and opinions about Hammurabi and his Code of Laws. You will be using the facts we gathered during our in class research. You may add in other research you have done.

**R**: First Person

**A**: Your teacher and peers

**F**: expository essay

**T**: Hammurabi & his Code

**S**: detailed with facts and opinions

**Graded on: S2:C2:PO6-** **Analyze the impact of cultural and scientific contributions**

**of ancient civilizations on later civilizations.**

**A. Mesopotamia (laws of Hammurabi)**

IB CRITERION A: KNOWLEDGE

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **100%** | **85%** | **75%** | **65%** | **50%** |
| Terminology is accurate and appropriate with few errors. Facts and examples are used and show understanding. Basic descriptions available and adequate. | Terminology is mostly accurate and usually appropriate with some errors, Facts and examples are mostly relevant, and usually show understanding. Student provided basic descriptions but may need more detail. Explanations are usually adequate but sometimes superficial. | Use of terminology is inconsistent or incorrect. Facts and example are either absent or the ones used are irrelevant. Student provided descriptions that are inaccurate or have insufficient detail. Explanations are superficial. | Terminology is inconsistent and incorrect. Fact and examples are absent and do not show understanding. Student descriptions are inaccurate and insufficient, and explanations are absent | The student does not reach a standard described by an or the descriptors below |

**Example of how to start writing an essay:**

Laws are what make the world go around! Don’t believe me, well in the year 1790 BCE a young king named Hammurabi created a code of laws that would govern the entire society of Babylon. Were his laws fair? Well that depends on who you ask. I think Hammurabi’s Code of Laws was fair, and I wish those laws were still in effect today. Hammurabi improved Babylon in many ways. He created a very interesting set of rules, his projects helped shape Babylon and his rule was long and prosperous. I wonder what Hammurabi would think of the world today?

Hammurabi created a very interesting set of rules to govern his kingdom of Babylon. One of the Laws states that it is the judges fault if they make a mistake through their own fault then the judge can be removed from their position. In my opinion this is completely fair because if the judge is the person who made the mistake, they should lose their job it is an appropriate consequence. Another law that I feel is completely fair is the one that states if someone falsely accuses someone else of certain crimes, then he shall be put to death. This is completely fair since if the accuser made up the charges, the victim has already paid the consequences for them. Hammurabi’s rules have some crazy consequences and what happens if the person who was falsely accused has had their hand cut off? There definitely has to be some sort of justice.

Living in Babylon must have been a unique experience. Hammurabi laid out the city streets in a grid pattern……

You will begin writing your essay on the next page!

**Example Essay**

Laws are what make the world go around! Don’t believe me; well in the year 1790 BCE a young king named Hammurabi created a code of laws that would govern the entire society of Babylon. Were his laws fair? Well, that depends on who you ask. I think Hammurabi’s Code of Laws was fair, and I wish those laws were still in effect today. Hammurabi improved Babylon in many ways. He created a very interesting **set of rules**, **his projects** helped shape Babylon and **his rule** was long and prosperous. I wonder what Hammurabi would think of the world today?

Hammurabi created a very interesting set of rules to govern his kingdom of Babylon. One of the Laws states that it is the judges fault if they make a mistake through their own fault then the judge can be removed from their position. In my opinion this is completely fair because if the judge is the person who made the mistake, they should lose their job it is an appropriate consequence. Another law that I feel is completely fair is the one that states if someone falsely accuses someone else of certain crimes, then he shall be put to death. This is completely fair since if the accuser made up the charges, the victim has already paid the consequences for them. Hammurabi’s rules have some crazy consequences and what happens if the person who was falsely accused has had their hand cut off? There definitely has to be some sort of justice.

Living in Babylon must have been a unique experience. Hammurabi laid out the city streets in a grid pattern. This must have made it really easy to get around the city. It is interesting that Phoenix is laid out in a grid pattern, as are many major cities today. Another project of Hammurabi’s was digging irrigation canals. Water was life in Mesopotamia. Keeping water flowing to the crops and the city was important to keeping Babylon happy. A major project that Hammurabi also undertook, was the restoring of the cities temples. Since the Babylonians were polytheistic there must have been many temples, and probably cost a lot of money to restore. Hammurabi definitely had the welfare of his people in mind.

Hammurabi unified a large part of Mesopotamia under him once he became ruler. As a ruler, his kingdom of Babylon became very prosperous and strong. Hammurabi ruled directly over his people. He did not have a system of government like we have today where we get to vote for our laws and for the people who make the laws. He had all the power to himself. That’s the way I would

Conclusion sentence!!