**Basic Synthesis Outline**

**Introduction**

 Hook (catch the reader's attention; tie into your topic sentence)

 Topic Sentence (titles, authors, main idea)

 Thesis (your argument -- answer the prompt)

**Body Paragraph # 1**

 Topic Sentence (point of discussion # 1)

 ACE Text 1

 ACE Text 2

 Concluding Sentence (tie back to thesis)

**Body Paragraph # 2**

 Topic Sentence (point of discussion # 2)

 ACE Text 1

 ACE Text 2

 Concluding Sentence (tie back to thesis)

**Body Paragraph # 3**

 Topic Sentence (point of discussion #3)

 ACE Text 1

 ACE Text 2

 Concluding Sentence (tie back to thesis)

**Conclusion**

 Re-stated thesis statement

 Summary of points presented (in body paragraphs (1, 2, & 3)

 Final concluding sentence

*\*This is a starting point. You can add more than one ACE per text in a paragraph if you want.*

**SCORING GUIDE FOR SYNTHESIS RESPONSE**

**This is a first -draft response and should be assessed as such. The response is assessed holistically.**

**6--**The six essay is **superior**, demonstrating an insightful understanding of the texts. The essay shows a

sophisticated approach to synthesis, including pertinent references. The writing style is effective and

demonstrates skillful control of language. Despite its clarity and precision, the essay need not be error-free.

**5--**The five essay is **proficient**, demonstrating a clear understanding of the texts at an interpretive level.

The essay clearly synthesizes the concepts within the texts. References may be explicit or implicit and

convincingly support the analysis. The writing is well organized and reflects a strong command of the

conventions of language. Errors may be present, but are not distracting.

**4--**The four essay is **competent**. Understanding of the texts tends to be literal and superficial. Some synthesis

is apparent. The essay may rely heavily on paraphrasing. References are present and appropriate, but may be

limited. The writing is organized and straightforward. Conventions of language are usually followed, but

some errors are evident.

**3--**The three essay is **barely adequate**. Understanding of the texts may be partially flawed. An attempt at

synthesis is evident. References to the texts are not clearly connected to a central idea or may be repetitive.

The response may be somewhat underdeveloped. A sense of purpose may be evident, but errors can be

distracting.

**2--**The two essay is **inadequate**. While there is an attempt to address the topic, understanding of the texts or

the task may be seriously flawed. An essay that makes reference to both texts but refers only fleetingly to

one of them is inadequate. The response may be seriously underdeveloped. Errors are recurring, distracting,

and impede meaning.

**1--**The one essay is **unacceptable**. Although the essay mentions both texts, the essay is too brief to address the

topic or there may be a complete lack of control in the writing.

**0--**The zero essay reflects a complete misunderstanding of the texts and/or the task, or is a restatement of the

question. Exclusive reference to only one text does not constitute synthesis. Exclusively narrative responses

reflect a complete misunderstanding of the task.

**NR --** A blank paper with no response given.

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| **Final Thoughts and Suggestions** |
| **2 things the writer did well** | 1.2. |
| **2 things to work on next time** | 1. 2. |
| **Peer Marker Grade** |  | **Teacher Grade** |  |