LONG ESSAY NOTES- French and Indian War

QUESTION:
Evaluate the extent to which the Seven Year’s War (French and Indian War, 1754-1763) marked a turning point in American relations with Great Britain, analyzing what changed and what stayed the same from the period before the war to the period after it.

Thinking Skill= Continuity and Change Over Time

Introductory paragraph and Thesis (2 – 3, but no more than 4 sentences)
A. Quick Intro to the Topic that gives basic context of periods
B. Responds to the prompt with a historically defensible thesis/claim that establishes a line of reasoning. More than simply rephrasing the prompt.

Issues:
1) Too long or too short of an intro. Give a basic overview of the event.
2) Thesis= Read it to yourself….does it answer the question?
   -Some just restate the question
   -Some are too long and lack focus
   -Need to address all parts of the question= THE SHADES OF GREY- Acknowledge both

Context- 2- Paragraph
Describes a broader historical context relevant to the prompt. More than a phrase or reference.
1) Think PERS= Star Wars crawl. What else was happening during the time period that could relate to this question. Don’t need a focus on the specifics. Stay bigger picture and then fit the ? into this context. Show you understand what was happening BIG PICTURE.
2) Last sentence should transition to the question.

Body of the Essay =
Evidence-
1) Provides specific examples of evidence relevant to the topic of the prompt (1)
2) Supports an argument in response to the prompt using specific/relevant (1)
The best answers used specific evidence for BOTH similar and differences and then had excellent commentary/analysis. Make a claim and then think- “SO WHAT?” What does this prove? Connect the dots for the reader and tie it back to defending your claim/thesis.

Analysis and Reasoning=
1) Uses historical reasoning (e.g. Comparison, Causation, CCOT) to frame or structure and argument that addresses the prompt (1)
2) Demonstrates a complete understanding of the historical development that is the focus of the prompt, using evidence to CORROBORATE, QUALIFY, or MODIFY an argument (2)
First point shouldn’t be that hard as long as you focus on the thinking skill involved. Here it was CCOT.
The second point is VERY difficult. You need to demonstrate a COMPLEX understanding. What variables caused the event? What interesting insights do you have? Proving your point across multiple themes. Qualifying or modifying the argument by considering alternate evidence. This becomes the ART of writing.

Great Verbs: Showed, proves, adjusted, altered, resulted in, consequence of, adjusted, sparked, maintained
Other: 1) Sentence Structure  2) Past Tense  3) False facts