LONG ESSAY NOTES

QUESTION:
Some historians have argued that the British victory over the French in North America inevitably led to the American Revolution a few years later. Support, modify, or refute this contention using specific evidence and showing the historical skill of Causation.

I. **Thesis or introductory paragraph** (2 – 3, but no more than 4 sentences)
   A. fully addresses all parts of the question
   B. specifically addresses the historical thinking skill while making a relevant argument
   C. provides organizational categories (points of development)
   D. establishes the time frame of the essay
   E. may include some contextual information

Issues:
A. No real intro or too long of an intro
B. Thesis statements that didn’t answer the question or usually just restated it
C. Thesis statements with no concept or why or included themes in the thesis
D. No themes or too specific themes.

II. **Body of the Essay** (Paragraphs must follow the order stated in the organizational categories.)
   A. **Second paragraph and topic sentence** (an insightful statement that connects directly to the argument in the thesis paragraph, the historical thinking skill, and one of the categories)
      1. **Chronologically correct, relevant specific evidence** clearly stating how the evidence supports the thesis or argument, and establishing clear linkages between the evidence and the thesis or argument

      2. **Clincher/transition sentence** that links this paragraph back to the argument and the historical thinking skill in your thesis paragraph. (Unless you link this paragraph to the argument in your thesis and the historical thinking skill you have no analysis in your essay.)

Issues:
A. Evidence was non existent. Too general or used quotes and research
B. Just provided a laundry list of info but never connected it = Write and run
C. You need glue- connect the dots, show how it proves your thesis, prove causation.
D. Don’t just say it- Show how= SO WHAT

III. **Conclusion**
   A. reinforces the thesis and addresses the questions “So What?” and “Why is this important?”
   B. synthesizes the argument, evidence, and context into a coherent and persuasive essay by doing **one of the following:**
      • explicitly employing an additional appropriate category of analysis {e.g., political, economic, social, cultural, geographical, race/ethnicity, gender} beyond that called for in the prompt
      • appropriately connecting the topic of the question to other historical periods, geographical areas, contexts, or circumstances

Issues:
A. Not there. Forgot to do it. Find an outside topic or era and make/prove the connect.