**Mr. Cass’s Marking Acronyms**

**and**

**FRQ Command Protocols**

**Objective**: The purpose of this guide is to clarify why you did not receive full credit for a written response on a quiz or test, formatting your heading, or formatting your FRQ (Free Response Question) responses. This document will also explain “how” to obtain full credit when writing in your World History class. If points are deducted, refer to this document for clarification as to why you lost points.

**Formatting deductions:**

1. **NMLA (NOT MLA)** = Refers to your response sheet’s or typed assignment’s MLA heading. One point per error, whether something is missing, spaced incorrectly, or out of order will be deducted.
2. **SE (SPACING ERROR)** = Refers to the spacing of your response. FRQ responses require a skipped line between each part. One point will be deducted for each error.
3. **NUC (NOT UPPERCASE)** = Refers to NOT writing in uppercase letters on the multiple choice sections of tests or quizzes, AND, spelling a proper noun (country, person, event, etc…) with a lowercase first letter. One point will be deducted for this overall error – not every question.

**Writing deductions and commands:** LIST, IDENTIFY, EXPLAIN, DESCRIBE, DEFINE

1. **NS (NO STEM)** = Refers to not incorporating the STEM of the question within your response, including a question with a “List” command.
2. **LE** **(LIST ERROR)** = Refers to the FRQ’s writing command, LIST. Your list may be inaccurate, incomplete, or out of order.
3. **NID (NOT IDENTIFIED)** = Refers to the FRQ writing command, IDENTIFY. Simply put, identify by name the people, place, or event(s), in the question and provide a brief reason for their or its significance in a sentence or two.
4. **NE (NOT EXPLAINED)** = Refers to the FRQ writing command, EXPLAIN and IDENTIFY AND EXPLAIN. For full credit your response should:
5. Identify by name the people, place, or event(s) in the questions then provide a brief reason of who, what, where, when, why, and how people, places or situations are, is, were, or will be affected. Next, provide a brief reason for how the phenomenon was caused.
6. Explain when, why, how, and what happened as well as its effects and provide factual, accurate information about the topic asked.
7. **NDF (NOT DEFINED)** = Refers to the FRQ writing command, DEFINE. This will be marked on responses that do not accurately define a term. Simply include the STEM of the question and define the term.
8. **ND (NOT DESCRIBED)** = Refers to the FRQ writing command, DESCRIBE. For full credit your response should:
9. Your response should describe to your reader the characteristics of what is being asked in the FRQ.
10. You could be asked to describe a person or situation. A general rule of thumb is to describe an event with causes and effects, with the people involved and the significance of their actions. In essence, offer an account of what happened, who made it happen, what caused it and what effects occurred. Paint a word picture.
11. A “Describe” command needs a “because…” statement. You can’t just write, “Culture contributes to the distribution of diversity in many ways and is a global force that unites countries and people.” There needs to be a “because…,” or “For example…”
12. **VG (VAGUE)** = Refers to a response to any EXPLAIN or DESCRIBE command that is vague. Vague simply means your response lacks clarity, specifics, was hastily written, is not clear in meaning or expression and demonstrates a level of uncertainty.