**HOW TO WRITE AN AP EURO LEQ**

On the AP European History Exam, you will write one (1) Long Essay Question (LEQ). Mastering the skill of writing these is imperative, and there are five (5) key components.

1. **ATQ – Answer The Question!**

Your essay must address the question and skill you are given. Make sure your response correctly addresses the topic(s) and the time frames of the question.

1. **BART – Background, Argument, Reasons Three**
   1. Your introduction/ thesis should have three parts:
      1. Background – One sentence that should set up the topic
      2. Argument – Your second sentence should be your thesis, with your
      3. Reasons Three – A minimum of three groups/ topics that respond to the task
   2. Underline your thesis!
2. **Use Transitional Phrases**

You should use good transitional phrases in your essay. They can be broken down for several ways.

1. **To Clarify a sequence of events:** first, second, third, next, finally, last
2. **To show a similar relationship:** similarly, in like manner, likewise
3. **To point out a dissimilarity:** in opposition to, in contrast to, on the other hand
4. **To emphasize a point:** indeed, in fact, surely, certainly
5. **To show or point out a result:** consequently, as a result, therefore, hence
6. **To summarize a position:** in summation, finally, in conclusion, in short
7. **To illustrate a point:** for example, by way of illustration, for instance
8. **To contrast a position:** on the other hand, however, but, yet, despite, although
9. **To record time:** now, gradually, later, eventually, immediately, at once, at this point, next, afterward, soon, then
10. **Detail**

Put as much detail as you can into the essay. It should be content rich. Use vocabulary terms, people, places, events, etc. to flesh out your essay. Load it up!

1. **In Conclusion – Synthesis!**

In your conclusion, thesis and connect your thesis to a larger idea. Place it in world context by connecting it to a different event in a different time period.

1. **Manage Your Time**

You should write your essay in about 35 minutes, with the first 5 minutes outlining your essay. Stay focused on the task! You need to get to the point and move. Don’t dawdle!

1. **Write the Essay**

Be calm, and write. Freaking out only wastes time and makes you nervous. Just do it!