

S.P.R.I.T.E.

WHAT IS SPRITE?

SPRITE is an acronym that guides you in grounding your rhetorical analysis around big ideas (best used for synthesis essays; we will practice with all writings).

SPRITE is divided into 6 categories that are seen as factors within any event studied.

S - SOCIAL

This category covers anything that directly affects people. When a population and/or a large group of people are affected by an event, it is most likely a social factor.

EXAMPLES:

- Gender roles and relations
- Family and kinship
- Racial and ethnic constructions
- Social and economic classes

QUESTIONS TO ASK YOURSELF:

- What were the gender roles and relationships?
- What were the family and kinship dynamics?
- What were the racial and ethnic constructions?
- What were the social and economic classes?

P - POLITICAL

This category covers anything that is related to the actions of the government or impacts the government. The actions of rulers, leaders, or governments with each other or against each other would be included in this category. These actions can range from protecting or expanding borders, restructuring of the government system, revolutions, and acts of war.

EXAMPLES:

- Political structures and forms of governance
- Empires
- Nations and nationalism
- Revolts and revolutions
- Regional, transregional, and global structures and organizations

QUESTIONS TO ASK YOURSELF:

- What were the political structures and forms of governance?
- Were there any revolts and revolutions?
- What were the regional, transregional, and global structures and organizations?

R - RELIGION

This category is self explanatory. Anything that is a result of religious theology or anything that has impacted religion or was impacted by religion belongs in this category.

EXAMPLES:

- Religions and Belief systems

QUESTIONS TO ASK YOURSELF:

- Were there religion(s) and belief system(s)? (Name, holy books, practices)

I - INTELLECTUAL

This category covers anything related to a society's culture: ideas, education, and art. New ways of thinking that aren't related to religion would be included here as well.

EXAMPLES:

- The arts and architecture
- Philosophies and ideologies

QUESTIONS TO ASK YOURSELF:

- Did they create art and architecture?
- What were the philosophies and ideologies?

T - TECHNOLOGICAL

Any advancement in science, medicine, or weaponry that changes the way a society lives or an army fights would go in this category. Anytime a country progresses as a result of new inventions means that technology is the result.

EXAMPLES:

- Science and Technology

QUESTIONS TO ASK YOURSELF:

- What science and technology did they create? (Were they innovative?)

E - ECONOMIC

This category covers any information related to the spending or accumulation of money. Any form of taxes, loans, purchases or any other actions related to the exchanging of money or items of value would be included here.

EXAMPLES:

- Agricultural and pastoral production
- Labor systems
- Industrialization and globalization
- Capitalism and socialism

QUESTIONS TO ASK YOURSELF:

- What did they create through agricultural and pastoral production?
- Were there labor system(s) (indentured servants, slavery, mandatory service)?
- Was there industrialization and globalization marketing?
- Was the economic system capitalism or socialism?