**Social Studies Writing Elements**

**Thesis**

* summarized in one sentence
* answers the question/problem
* takes a clear stance

**Roadmap**

* supports and clarifies the thesis
* prepares reader for upcoming information
* identifies points that will be used to defend thesis

**\*Topic Sentence**

* supports the thesis & roadmap
* is general and not specific
* introduces topic of the paragraph in the first sentence

**\*Statement**

* sets up the example
* gives background information or definitions to support the example
* clarifies the topic sentence

**\*Example**

* specific
* based on fact (usually requires a citation)
* helps support the thesis & topic sentence

**\*Tie-Back**

* explains how the example relates to the thesis
* usually more than one sentence
* provides author's analysis of the example & its relation to the thesis

**Introduction Paragraph**

* starts with a hook, ends with a thesis/roadmap
* provides background information (who/what/where/when)
* starts vague and ends specific

**Conclusion Paragraph**

* restates thesis/roadmap in the first sentence
* minimum 3-5 sentence summation of the evidence
* provides no new information

\*These elements can appear multiple times

throughout the body of your writing.**Social Studies Writing Elements**

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