**Essay Questions 2019**

The key to these is discussing specific examples in detail to prove all your points. The best marks will be awarded to papers that use material from the course to make original and convincing connections between the eras discussed.

**A. God and Nature**

There were massive changes in ideas about religion, God and nature in the eras we studied. Use ideas from individuals such as Luther, Loyola, St. Theresa, Galileo, Locke, Keats, etc. and examples from art/literature to show this. (Hint: I recommend doing this in chronological order! Just make sure you make a plan so you will have time to get to Romanticism!)

**B. The Absolutist Monarch or the Romantic Hero?**

Much of the art and architecture produced under the very long reign of Louis XIV (and other absolutist rulers around the world) glorified the king. The art and literature of Romanticism had a love affair with the hero. Using lots of examples explain how these seemingly similar tendencies actually differ in many ways. (Hint: It is super-useful to discuss Louis' creation of the academies.)

**C. *Memento Mori* or Back to Nature?**

The art of the Baroque in the Protestant North, Rococo painting and the Romantic art were all very concerned with depicting the natural world, but for very different reasons and with different results. Discuss these with reference to specific examples. Refer to the ideas that shaped these art movements.

**D. Romantic Backlash!**

Romanticism was a reaction to the Enlightenment. Imagine you are one of the Romantics we studied and imagine and explain how the art, literature and ideas of your era are like and unlike those of the Enlightenment. (Hint: There are probably some things you like, such as Rousseau, as well as things you are not so crazy about!)

**E. Save the Drama for Your Mama? No Way!**

The Catholic Reformation and the Romanticism were movements that spoke to the passions of the people of the times. Art and literature that engaged the emotions were central to each. The essential ideas behind them, however, were very different. Compare and contrast the art and ideas of these eras using as many examples from the course as you can to prove your points. (So many big feelings!)

**F.** **Where the Girls Are.**  We have been introduced to a number of influential and important women. Explain their ideas and contributions to art, literature, or science. Also discuss how male artists and writers were depicting (painting, etc.) and discussing women during this era. You can also discuss how ideas about human nature or natural laws relate to these discussions of women.

Title Artist

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