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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **RUBRIC** | **3** | **2** | **1** |
| Length | Essay is at least 5 paragraphs long  (Intro, Compare/Contrast, Reaction, Importance of NOT stereotyping, conclusion) | Essay is at least 4 paragraphs long | Essay is 3 (or fewer) paragraphs long |
| Compare/Contrast | Essay clearly describes both **ONE** stereotype that exists in middle school as well as a stereotype in the Middle East (based on the reading); compares/contrasts similarities and differences between the stereotypes | Essay offers a general comparison/contrast of stereotypes versus some of those in the Middle East | Essay only describes stereotypes; does not provide a clear connection between a middle school stereotype and a stereotype in the Middle East |
| Reaction | Essay clearly explains - in a paragraph - how the stereotypes about Americans made you feel and whether you agree with them (based on the reading) | Essay offers a general reaction to American stereotypes, but it is not clearly defined in its own paragraph | Essay offers 1-2 sentences describing your reaction to stereotypes |
| References | The essay references AT LEAST TWO reputable articles (no Wikipedia) that explain how the media has influenced/perpetuated the stereotype you chose to examine in the Middle East. | The essay references AT LEAST ONE reputable articles (no Wikipedia) that explain how the media has influenced/perpetuated the stereotype you chose to examine in the Middle East. | The essay makes reference to the media and its impact, but does not cite any specific sources. |
| Debunking stereotypes  \*Debunk: to expose the sham or falseness of | Essay thoroughly explains the impact of stereotypes and why it is important to debunk them | Essay briefly explains why it is important to debunk stereotypes | Essay discusses stereotypes, but does not adequately explain why it is important to debunk them |
| Writing Style and Structure | Essay is concise, has a strong beginning, supporting paragraphs and conclusion (see length requirements), uses proper transitions, grammar and punctuation | Essay is well-organized, transitions are apparent, but may need improvement, uses correct grammar and punctuation | Structure of essay is disjointed, transitions, grammar and punctuation need work |
| TOTAL POINTS POSSIBLE: 18  GRADE: |  |  |  |

**C**

**ESSAY PROMPT:**

Using the PBS informational text *What Are Some Typical Misperceptions and Stereotypes Westerners Hold About Islam and the Middle East, and Vice Versa?* (<http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/globalconnections/mideast/questions/types/index.html?pagewanted=all>), write a narrative essay in which you compare and contrast a common middle school stereotype to one of the stereotypes we read about in the Middle East.

**In your essay include:**

* **Introduction:** Explain the two stereotypes you are comparing (middle school stereotype vs. **ONE** of the M.E. stereotypes from the article that you chose.
* **Body:**
  + Describe a middle school stereotype; describe a M.E. stereotype; how are they similar/different?
  + Describe your reaction to how the stereotypes about Americans (in the article) made you feel. Did you agree with them? Disagree?
  + **YOUR ESSAY MUST ALSO INCLUDE REFERENCE TO AT LEAST TWO ARTICLES EXPLAINING HOW THE MEDIA HAS INFLUENCED OR PERPETUATED A STEREOTYPE. RESEARCH AND CITE** (within your essay, you do not have to include a separate bibliography) **TWO ARTICLES USING REPUTABLE NEWS SOURCES** (EXAMPLES: New York Times, CNN, BBC, Washington Post, USA Today, AJC - you are not limited to these resources, they are examples).
  + **Ex: According to the New York Times article, *Headline*, Islam is portrayed as…**
* **Conclusion:** Why is it important to debunk stereotypes? Explain how stereotypes impact us.

**ESSAY OUTLINE – HOW TO STRUCTURE YOUR ESSAY! (C)**

**Introduction:**

**ANSWER THE FOLLOWING IN YOUR FIRST PARAGRAPH:**

**-**What is your essay about?

-What is a stereotype?

-What is an example of a stereotype in the Middle East?

-What is an example of a stereotype in middle school?

**ANSWER THE FOLLOWING IN YOUR FIRST BODY PARAGRAPH:**

* BODY PARAGRAPH1: What stereotype in the Middle East will you examine? (Explain it in more detail than your intro paragraph) What stereotype in middle school will you examine? (Explain it in more detail than your intro paragraph)
* BODY PARAGRAPH2: How are these stereotypes similar? How are they different? Describe their similarities and differences in this paragraph.
* BODY PARAGRAPH3: (Use a transition word): Describe ONE stereotype the Middle East had about Americans. How did it make you feel? What was your reaction to it? Do you agree/disagree?
* BODY PARAGRAPH4: How does the media influence or perpetuate Middle Eastern stereotypes? Remember to cite AT LEAST TWO ARTICLES FROM REPUTABLE SOURCES.

**Conclusion:**

ANSWER THE FOLLOWING IN YOUR CONCLUSION:

-How do stereotypes impact all of us?

-Why is it important to debunk stereotypes?