1. Did not read the required content, such as specific sections from the Constitution.
2. Did not write on one of the listed Comparison Topics.
3. Repeated the same method used previously even though it had been marked as an error.
Did not ask.
4. Did not look up general words but assumed. See the lists below for general words and for verbs involved in Shays’s Rebellion and the Whiskey Rebellion.
5. Did not follow the model in the textbook for spelling, punctuation, or meaning of words about history.
6. Did not check your work for accurate evidence (or proof) before submitting for a grade (or doing work to keep your job).

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| proof or evidence | Merriam Webster Online:proofsomething which shows that something else is true or correct evidence something which shows that something else exists or is true  |
|  | ***A brain trick for checking your proof for what you say***Place your textbook (or the primary source you used) on the left and your paper on the right.If you have a citation for 185, you turn to 185 and touch the fact in the source with your left hand and you touch your page with your right. Do they match:* In truth?Any reader using a dictionary and reading *before* and *after* the fact would agree you read accurately? No embellishments, no assumptions, no misreads, no cherry-picking.If not, fix the error.
* In the page number? **All** of the things you say *before* that endnote are on that single and specific page? If not, either remove unsupported words from your paper or add citation for a page that does prove what you say.
 |

1. Did not proofread your work before submitting for a grade (or doing work to keep your job).
* For accuracy of text that you have placed in quotation marks and for accurate use of quotation marks with all of the author’s words
* For accuracy of language used by the discipline of history
* For correct use of language in general and for clarity

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Proofread (or *proof*) your work | Merriam Webster Online:“ to read and correct mistakes in (a written or printed piece of writing)”* “He *proofread* the essay carefully.”
 |
|  | ***A brain trick for proofreading what you say for accuracy, good language, and for clarity***For accuracy of text you have placed in quotation marks Place your textbook (or Constitution) on the left and your paper on the right.1. Between the opening quotation mark (“) and the closing quotation mark (”), check **each** letter and **each** punctuation mark.
2. If you do not match the source, fix your paper.
3. If you notice that nearby words are also in the same words and order as the source, fix your paper.**To prevent this problem,** choose 3 to 6 words that are worth quoting, place a “ at the beginning and a ” at the end, and change nothing between the “ and the ”

For accuracy of words **from** the source1. Have you made sure that you have placed the author’s words in quotation marks as you should?

Go to Turnitin and check the Originality report for your paper. 1. If some of your words are identified as a match of other submissions and those words are not in quotation marks (“”) correctly, then go compare those words in your source and in your paper letter by letter.
2. If you should have used quotation marks (“”), fix your paper.**To prevent this problem,** close your book before you write one word. If you need to open the book, close it again before you start to type or use a pen or pencil.

For accuracy of language used by the discipline of history1. Have you spelled the word the way the source does?Example: Shays’s Rebellion
2. Have you punctuated the word the way the source does?Example: 1660s (not 1660’s)
3. Have you used the word the way the source does?

Example: words such as *freeman*, *servant*, and *slave* have specific meanings in the discipline of historyFor correct use of language in general1. Run spell check and grammar check using your word processor. Do not accept every correction the software suggests. Click on the explanation to be sure.
2. Go to Turnitin and check the Grademark report for your paper
3. If some of your words are identified as incorrect sentences or unclear, then rewrite your sentences. Simple sentences are fine.

For clarity1. Read aloud **each** syllable in your paper, ideally in a silly accent.
2. Your *ear* will notice omitted words, bad grammar, and errors in meaning that your *eye* will not.
3. Write the corrections on your printed paper that you must make.
4. Make them in your file.
5. Compare your printed page with your file to be sure you didn’t make a new error.
 |

All definitions are from the Merriam-Webster Online (<http://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary>).

Copyright C. J. Bibus, Ed.D. 2003-2015

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **WCJC Department:** | History – Dr. Bibus |
| **Contact Information:** | 281.239.1577 or bibusc@wcjc.edu |
| **Last Updated:** | 2015 |
| **WCJC Home:** | <http://www.wcjc.edu/> |