### Manifest Destiny Activity: Was Manifest Destiny Justified?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>A = 16 -20 points</th>
<th>B = 12 – 15 points</th>
<th>C = 8 – 11 points</th>
<th>F = 7 points or lower</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Thesis</strong></td>
<td>Thesis is intriguing, well-written, and nuanced. It is reflective of group’s discussion, debate, and combined knowledge.</td>
<td>Thesis is well-written and reflective of a careful consideration of the combined knowledge of the group.</td>
<td>Thesis makes sense and makes a claim, but isn’t very specific about the reasoning behind the claim.</td>
<td>Thesis may be poorly written. Thesis either makes no claim at all OR doesn’t have any claim beyond answering the overarching question yes or no.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Claims (mini-theses)</strong></td>
<td>Thesis is effectively supported by four distinct, persuasive, claims. Claims are significant and relevant.</td>
<td>Thesis is supported by four distinct claims. Claims are relevant and mostly persuasive.</td>
<td>Thesis is supported by two or three distinct claims. Claims are sometimes relevant and not very persuasive. Some claims may be repetitive or redundant, overlapping with other claims.</td>
<td>Thesis is supported by only one or two claims. Claims are insubstantial, rarely relevant, and not persuasive.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Evidence</strong></td>
<td>Each claim is thoroughly supported by specific, relevant, and significant facts, details, and/or quotations from a wide variety of primary and/or secondary sources. Material is referenced with style, context, and accuracy.</td>
<td>Each claim is supported by specific and relevant facts, details, and/or quotations from a variety of primary and/or secondary sources. Material is referenced with context and accuracy.</td>
<td>Each claim is supported by facts, details, and/or quotations from primary and/or secondary sources, but may not be as specific or relevant as needed to be persuasive. Facts, details and quotations are mostly accurate, but there may be 1 or 2 major errors.</td>
<td>Claims are not supported by evidence or the evidence is too general and/or imprecise to be meaningful. Accuracy is a problem.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Argument/Explanation</strong></td>
<td>Argument convincingly demonstrates that the evidence thoroughly proves the claim and main thesis.</td>
<td>Argument explains how the evidence proves the claim.</td>
<td>Arguments attempts to explain how the evidence proves the claim with only limited success.</td>
<td>Argument summarizes the evidence, but does not connect it back to the claim. Or, argument is missing.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professionalism</td>
<td>4 – Intrepid Explorer (excellent)</td>
<td>3 – Discoverer (good)</td>
<td>2 – Traveler (fair)</td>
<td>1 – At home watching the Travel Channel (poor)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>All components in the video are clear and polished. Visuals or creative techniques effectively maintain the viewers' interest and contribute meaningfully to the viewer's understanding of the group's arguments.</td>
<td>Components in the video are clear. Visuals or creative techniques are used and are mostly helpful.</td>
<td>Quality of video components is inconsistent. Visuals are used, but with mixed success.</td>
<td>Poor quality of video components. No visuals were used. Creative techniques were absent.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Comments:**