

# Causes of Conflict

Understanding the causes of conflicts may help us resolve current conflicts or prevent future ones from occurring. You will research a conflict and analyze its causes from different social science perspectives.

## Your Task

In a cohesive paper or presentation, you will:

- State a claim regarding the main cause(s) of the conflict.
- Provide evidence to support your claim, considering the conflict from multiple social science perspectives.\*
- Address a counterclaim regarding the factor that played a primary role in causing the conflict.
- Refer explicitly in the paper or presentation to four or more credible sources that provide relevant information:
  - Cite your sources when you draw information from them: for instance, when you summarize, paraphrase, or quote, and when you refer to facts, figures, and ideas.
  - Provide complete publication information for each source in your bibliography or list of works cited.

\*Social science perspectives are the lens of the social studies disciplines. Examples include geographic, economic, political, and cultural perspectives.

## Causes of Conflict Rubric

| Score     | 4   | 3   | 2  | 1   |
|-----------|---|---|--|---|
| Claim     | <p>I stated a claim regarding which factor played the primary role in causing the conflict.</p> <p>My claim is clear, specific, and arguable.</p> <p>I acknowledged the complexity and/or ambiguity of the claim.</p>   | <p>I stated a claim regarding which factor played the primary role in causing the conflict.</p> <p>My claim is clear, specific, and arguable.</p>   | <p>I stated a claim regarding which factor played the primary role in causing the conflict.</p> <p>My claim is clear and arguable, but too general.</p>  | <p>I stated a claim regarding which factor played the primary role in causing the conflict, but my claim is confusing, vague, and not arguable; <i>or</i> I described factors that played a role, but did not state a claim regarding the primary factor.</p>   |
| Evidence  | <p>I provided thorough and convincing evidence for the claim.</p> <p>I provided clear and coherent reasoning that connects evidence to the claim.</p> <p>I made explicit connections between corroborating evidence.</p> <p>I included thorough analysis, using multiple social science perspectives (e.g., geographic, economic, political, and cultural).</p> | <p>I provided adequate evidence for the claim.</p> <p>I provided mostly clear and coherent reasoning that connects evidence to the claim.</p> <p>I presented corroborating evidence without making explicit connections.</p> <p>I included an analysis, using multiple social science perspectives.</p> | <p>I provided uneven, cursory evidence for the claim.</p> <p>Some reasoning connecting evidence to the claim has flaws in logic.</p> <p>I presented no corroborating evidence.</p> <p>I included a limited analysis from multiple social science perspectives.</p> | <p>I provided minimal and/or irrelevant evidence for the claim, including little or no use of facts and details from sources.</p> <p>Most reasoning connecting evidence to the claim has flaws in logic.</p> <p>I presented no corroborating evidence.</p> <p>I mentioned social studies perspectives, but with no analysis, and/or I presented only one perspective.</p> |
| Reasoning | <p>I interpreted all evidence accurately.</p> <p>I presented a fair representation of people, issues, and events, and chronology and/or cause and effect.</p> <p>I placed evidence in historical context.</p> <p>I provided a fair/balanced interpretation and refutation of a counterclaim regarding the issue that contrasts with my own.</p>                 | <p>I interpreted evidence accurately.</p> <p>I presented a fair representation of people, issues, events, chronology, and/or cause and effect.</p> <p>I provided an interpretation and refutation of a counterclaim regarding the issue that contrasts with my own.</p>                                 | <p>I interpreted most evidence accurately.</p> <p>I presented a mostly fair representation of people, issues, events, chronology, and/or cause and effect.</p> <p>I mentioned a counterclaim regarding the issue that contrasts with my own.</p>                   | <p>I misinterpreted most of the evidence.</p> <p>I presented an unfair representation of people, issues, events, chronology, and/or cause and effect.</p> <p>I didn't mention a counterclaim regarding the issue that contrasts with my own.</p>  |

| Score     | 4  | 3   | 2   | 1   |
|-----------|--|---|---|---|
| Citations | I referred explicitly in the paper or presentation to four or more credible sources that provide relevant information.               | I referred explicitly in the paper or presentation to three credible sources that provide relevant information. | I referred explicitly in the paper or presentation to two credible sources that provide relevant information. | I referred explicitly in the paper or presentation to one credible source that provides relevant information. |
| Sources   | My sources are varied (primary and secondary), represent more than one point of view, and provide in-depth and reliable information. | My sources are varied (primary and secondary) and represent more than one point of view.                        | My sources are not varied, and they represent one point of view far more than another.                        | My sources are not varied, and I rely too much on one source for my evidence.                                 |

**No Score (NS)** is given if the work is unintelligible, in a language other than English, off topic, off purpose, or copied.