

# THESIS STRUCTURES

Must haves:

- Time period and place
- Has three explicit categories of analysis

- Takes a position that can be argued
- Address the prompt

## Causation

*Using specific examples, analyze causes of imperial expansion and consolidation in the period circa 600 B.C.E. to 600 C.E.*

Must have more than one cause (three is a good number as it will allow you to have plenty of evidence). Try to have two regions within your essay. Make your strong opinion clear (“successfully created powerful empires” below is a strong opinion).

**While on opposite sides of the world, both the Romans in the Mediterranean and the Han Dynasty in China successfully created powerful empires through a strong and cohesive central government, superior military technology and tactics, and the promotion of cultural unity in the period 600 B.C.E. to 600 C.E.**

## Comparison

*Compare the process of industrialization in Japan and Russia between 1850 and 1914.*

You must compare and contrast proving how the regions were similar to, and different from, one another for the topic(s) specified. Try to have three categories of analysis (two similarities and one difference or two differences and one similarity). Remember, you still have to argue and take a position. So you are judging whether the two things you’re comparing were more similar or more different.

**Although Japan and Russia differed in the amount of foreign cooperation each received as they industrialized between 1850 and 1914, their process of industrialization was actually remarkably similar as both depended upon large numbers of female workers and strong government intervention.**

## Continuity and change over time

*Using specific examples, analyze the extent to which the cultural beliefs and practices in Latin America changed in the period circa 1450 C.E. to 1750 C.E.*

You must identify continuities and changes in the region that is specified in the prompt. Remember, you still have to argue and take a position. So you are judging whether or not the continuities outweighed the changes or the changes outweighed the continuities. Try to have three categories of analysis (one change and two continuities or two changes and one continuity).

**While belief in indigenous American deities remained continuous, the introduction of Catholicism and African religious traditions facilitated dramatic change in the cultural beliefs and practices in Latin America from 1450 to 1750.**