Essay 4 Rough Draft
by Nestor Henriquez
The Popol Vuh is a descriptive scripture that introduces the culture of the Maya by serving as a bible. The sacred scripture goes into detail on the creation stories and the Gods that created the earth. The title “Popol Vuh” translates to “The Book of the People”, which indicates the sacred book as a recollection of the Mayan history, culture, and people. As the Popol Vuh is considered as a highly religious book, the creation stories that it tells are very similar to present day religious scriptures. Today a highly religious book, known as the Bible, which is widely known shares similar creation stories to that of the Popol Vuh. The creation stories in the section of Genesis in the bible shares similar characteristics to that of the creation stories in the Popol Vuh.

In the Popol Vuh, the creation stories revolve around a polytheistic belief in where there is no one god but many gods who created the world. In the creation story of the Popol Vuh it explains that the many Gods wanted to create a perfect race that could praise them the way they wanted. Having covered the earth with land and water and put animals in those different regions, they were unsatisfied because the animals could not speak therefore they could not praise the Gods. Soon after the Gods crafted people from the mud but this failed since the people made from mud did not last very long and fell apart. After trial and error the Gods perfect the human race intro living people that would praise the Gods in the manner they wished.

This section of the creation stories in the Popol Vuh is very similar to that of the first seven days in the Bible. In the Bible, there is only one God, which makes it s
monothestic religion. In the Bible the creation story lasted seven days in which God created the oceans, the lands, and the animals. God had seen that he wanted to create a race that would represent him, and in order to do so he created a man, Adam, and a woman, Eve, in the shape of his appearance. On the sixth day God created Man and Woman. On the seventh day God rested and saw what he had created.

This is very similar in which both creation stories retell the story of how humans came to be and how the land, water, and animals came first. They are very similar in a way that both God in the Bible and the Gods in Popol Vuh created man in order to get someone to represent them and praise their beliefs. The beliefs of both stories represent an explanation on how the earth came to be. They both also give an explanation of why things are the way they are on this earth, why there are trees, birds, and water. Both creation stories are similar in the way that humans were the last creation to be created in the stories in both sacred texts.

In Popol Vuh, when the gods created the mud people, who ultimately were a failed attempt to create the perfect race, is very similar to a story in the bible. In the Bible God looks down upon his failed attempt of people since they do not follow the rules that he has set from them. Determined, God decides to wipe out the race of humans by bringing a flood in where he warns the only human that has followed the rules, otherwise known as Moses. God uses the flood to wipe of the flawed humans and start the earth over again. This is very similar to that of the failed attempt of the Gods in the Popol Vuh to create a perfect race of people. Knowing that they failed the first time, they began over again on the construction of the perfect human race.
The Popol Vuh also described the event in where the people angered the Gods. The Gods had created the humans to be all knowing, all seeing, and all perceiving; they had created the perfect race of people. Although the people praise them, the gods became aware that the new race of people could potentially become powerful. This potential threat drove the Gods to take away skills and knowledge from the perfect human race cause flaws on the future race of humans.

This event in the Popol Vuh is very similar to the events that take place in the Old Testament. In the Bible there is a very famous story named The Tower Babel in where all the people decided to build a tower that would go up to the heavens and would allow them to see God. They had built this tower because of their disbelief that God really existed. Feeling threaten, God destroyed the tower and as punishment he gave everyone a different language, therefore they could not work together because of the lack of communication. This Biblical story is similar to that of the Popol Vuh because in both stories God or the Gods are feeling threatened of the human race over throwing them and taking their control of the world.

Other similar characteristics that both stories share are the characters that are portrayed. The Bible has the 12 disciples of Jesus Christ, who follow his teaching and pray to the one and only God. In the Popol Vuh there are four Progenitors who follow the teaching and duties of the gods. They only wish to serve the gods and do as they command. Both the twelve disciples and the four progenitors are similar in the way that they both follow the teachings and pray to the God or Gods that their belief falls onto.

Another similar characteristic is that The Holy spirit in The Bible is very similar to that of the Messenger of Xibalba. Xibalba is the spirit world that the Maya refer to when
offering tributes to the Gods. These two are very similar in the way that The Holy spirit visits the wise men, Mary, and Joseph, which is similar to the Four Progenitors visiting Xibalba and becoming messengers of the spirit world.

Both the Bible and the Popol Vuh share similar creation stories and concepts of why the world came to be. The characters that they both portray are very similar in roles in the stories that they are portrayed in. The Popol Vuh served as a bible to Mayas similar to what the Bible of the Catholic Church serves to the Catholic Church.
**PEERMARK REPORT**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>R2</th>
<th>Review 2</th>
<th>10 / 10</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>R1</td>
<td>Review 1</td>
<td>10 / 10</td>
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<tr>
<td>R3</td>
<td>Review 3</td>
<td>10 / 10</td>
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### QUESTION 1 - WHAT IS THE THESIS?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>R2</th>
<th>The bible and popol vuh shares the same trait</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>R1</td>
<td>The creation stories in the section of Genesis in the Bible shares similar characteristics to that of the creation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R3</td>
<td>The creation stories of in the section of Genesis in the bible share similar characteristics to that of the creation stories in the Popul Vuh.</td>
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### QUESTION 2 - HOW WOULD YOU RATE THE ORGANIZATION IN THIS ESSAY?  
1 = worst, 5 = best

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>R2</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>R1</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>R3</td>
<td>5</td>
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### QUESTION 3 - DOES EACH PARAGRAPH OF THIS PAPER LOGICALLY PROGRESS FROM THE FORMER ONES? WHY OR WHY NOT?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>R2</th>
<th>yes. Each paragraph have a god transition to flow.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>R1</td>
<td>Some paragraphs do, some do not. Try and make transition sentences a consistent thing through out the paper.</td>
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<td>R3</td>
<td>Yes logically and sequentially talking about similarities</td>
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### QUESTION 4 - HOW CLEARLY DOES THE AUTHOR EXPRESS HIS OR HER IDEAS?  
1 = very unclear, 5 = very clearly

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<tr>
<td>R1</td>
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<td>R3</td>
<td>5</td>
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### QUESTION 5 - HOW SMOOTHLY DOES THIS PAPER INTEGRATE EXAMPLES INTO ITS OWN ARGUMENT? DOES IT CLEARLY ILLUSTRATE CONNECTIONS BETWEEN THE EVIDENCE IT CITES AND THE IDEAS THEY SUPPORT, OR DOES IT MERELY ASSUME THEM? EXPLAIN.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>R2</th>
<th>i think there's ideas but i do not see quotation. therefore, it can be improved better by apply quotes.</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>R1</td>
<td>I did not see any examples through out the whole text.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R3</td>
<td>Good because talks about overall ideas of bible and popul vuh.</td>
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### QUESTION 6 - DOES THE LOGIC OF THIS PAPER'S ARGUMENT EVER FALL FLAT? WHERE? WHAT MIGHT BE DONE TO CORRECT THIS?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>R2</th>
<th>i think each paragraph can be expand or make it more tied together.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>R1</td>
<td>The fact that the argument has no examples to support it makes it fall flat after the second paragraph.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
No everything seems in order.

QUESTION 7 - DO YOU FEEL THIS PAPER RELIES ON EVIDENCE, OR ON OPINION OR INTUITION? IF THE LATTER, CITE EXAMPLES OF WHERE THIS PAPER RELIES ON OPINION AND INTUITION AND GIVE SUGGESTIONS AS TO HOW THE WRITER CAN WRITE MORE OBJECTIVELY.

i believe its rely more on the opinion and less examples.

If I did not know what the Popol Vuh and the Bible were, I would say this was an opinion based essay. For the absence of evidence.

Perhaps more objective if introduces sources page numbers and more all around quotations.

QUESTION 8 - COULD THE READABILITY, CLARITY, OR STYLE OF THIS PAPER BE IMPROVED? HOW?

i think it just need to improve on evidence.

The paper is easy to read with a decent flow.

Not redundant, opinionated, wordy or all over the place author did a good job with that.

QUESTION 9 - RATE THIS PAPER'S OVERALL READABILITY

1 = unreadable, 5 = very readable

3

3

5


i think the conclusion can be better. Explain more and refer back to thesis.

Not really because it just talks about how both sacred scriptures were used by their culture.

Yes because it attaches similarities.

QUESTION 11 - SCAN AND SPOT THE PAPER FOR THE ANY OF THE FOLLOWING PROBLEMS: COLLOQUIALISMS, INFORMALITY, Clichés, AND WORDINESS. GIVE A FEW EXAMPLES OF THESE PROBLEMS, IF THEY EXIST.

I do not exam any of those problems.

I am pretty sure writing "Bible" as just a noun and not a pro noun is informal.

"race of humans" human race" replace creations because used repeatedly

QUESTION 12 - DOES THIS PAPER SUSTAIN A COHERENT POINT OF VIEW? WHY OR WHY NOT?

yes. It is coherent though out the essay with that bible is similar with popol vuh

Yes it does, it stays with the fact that Popol Vuh and Bible are similar.

replace the word "perfect race" once in a while maybe repetitive.

QUESTION 13 - RATE THE STRENGTH OF THIS PAPER'S THESIS.

1 = very weak, 5 = very strong

4

3

4

QUESTION 14 - DOES THE AUTHOR INTRODUCE THE POPOL VUH AS A TEXT? HOW WELL IS THIS DONE?
R2 It's really good and understandable and it is talking about bible and popol vuh. The sentence makes the thesis convincing.

R1 Yes it is introduced as a text at the beginning of the essay.

R3 "The popol vuh is a descriptive scripture that introduces the culture of the mayan by serving as a bible."

QUESTION 15 - ARE THERE SUFFICIENT EXTERNAL SOURCES USED (3) AS EVIDENCE? ARE THE SOURCES SCHOLARLY/ACADEMIC SOURCES?

R2 I do not see any quotes and work cited page. Therefore, i only know that the essay is based on popol vuh and bible

R1 No external sources were used to support the argument, but they were mentioned.

R3 Maybe it could use one or two more external sources not just the bible or popul vuh. Perhaps an article or literary criticism?

QUESTION 16 - DOES THE AUTHOR MAKE RELEVANT COMPARISONS BETWEEN POPOL VUH AND OTHER TEXT(S)? WHAT DO YOU SUGGEST FOR IMPROVEMENT?

R2 i only see comparison with bible. therefore, i think another source will do it.

R1 Add evidence, you need evidence to support the argument. Comparisons were mad but you need hard facts to make the argument concrete.

R3 more in-depth example and use in text citations or quotes. To broad perhaps narrow it down?

QUESTION 17 - COULD THE WRITER OF THIS PAPER HAVE OMITTED CERTAIN PASSAGES TO MAKE THIS PAPER MORE CONCISE? IF YES, WHICH ONES?

R2 i don't think it need to omit any passage but combining them to make the idea better and closer.

R1 There were no passages used whatsoever.

R3 No everything was clear and necessary.

QUESTION 18 - HOW WOULD YOU RATE THE DEPTH/QUALITY OF ANALYSIS IN THIS ESSAY?

1 = worst, 5 = best

R2 4

R1 2

R3 3