Here is a list of suggested essay topics. These essays have been selected because they cover all aspects of the content and, combined, they should allow any student to answer any possible essay question.

1. **Compare and contrast Catholicism, Calvinism, and Lutheranism**
2. **Compare and contrast the northern and the southern renaissance**
3. **Discuss in detail the Henrican Reformation**
4. **Analyze the policies of Louis XIV and discuss, with specific examples, how he was an absolute monarch.**
5. **Compare and contrast the religious wars, ending with the Glorious Revolution.**
6. **Compare and contrast absolutism and constitutionalism. Be able to give specific examples to support your answer.**
7. **Trace and discuss the course of the Scientific Revolution. How did the religious and secular authorities react to this phenomenon?**
8. **Discuss the intellectual changes that took place in Europe during the Enlightenment. What were the primary aspects of this New-World view, how did these views alter from the Middle Ages, and how were these ideas spread?**
9. **What were the two distinct schools of thought developed by Montesquieu and Voltaire? What were these thoughts and how did these ideas impact eastern and western Europe?**
10. **How did England and the Dutch Republic successfully compete with France and Spain for control of trade and overseas territories?**
11. **How did the ideas of the French Revolution and the Reign of Terror reflect the wishes of the Enlightenment?**
12. **Compare and contrast the rules of Catherine the Great, Peter the Great of Russia, Louis XIV of France and Philip II of Spain.**
13. **Compare and contrast the ideas of Locke, Hobbes, and Rousseau.**