Secular vs. Sacred Structure Form, Function, Content and Context
Compare/Contrast Outline and Essay

Directions: Complete the outline and essay comparing and contrasting the Taj Mahal to a mosque (from the 250). Your essay must be typed, double spaced, using a standard font. Complete your outline in the format provided. Collate your outline, essay, and this handout together and turn them in at the beginning of class on the due date.

Map for Recall – this should help you with the context specifics for your outlines

Vocabulary – incorporate vocabulary on your outline and essay. What art vocabulary is associated with this work?

- Arabesque
- Calligraphy
- Iwan
- Mausoleum
- Mecca
- Minaret
- Minbar
- Mirab
- Muhammed
- Tessellation
- Qibla wall
- Qur’an

Essay: Compare and contrast the Taj Mahal to a mosque (from the 250) explaining how form, function, content, and context (religious versus secular) are reflected in their forms (and decoration).
Outline to help write your essay:

1. Identification of specific mosque for comparison
   - Title
   - Artist/Architect
   - Date
   - Location

2. Similarities in form with specific examples and differences in form with specific examples
   - What elements of art were used (color, line, shape, form, value, texture, space)?
   - What principles of art are significant (pattern, balance, unity, movement, contrast, proportion)?
   - How was it made?
   - What was it made with?

3. Function reasons for similarities or differences with specific examples
   - What is the meaning of the work?
   - What is the message it conveys?
   - What was the artist’s intent in creating this work?

4. Similarities in content with specific examples and differences in content with specific examples
   - Subject matter
     - Visible imagery (formal depictions, representational images, and/or symbolic depictions)
   - Iconography
     - These elements can be combined; possibly more than one

5. CONTEXT reasons for similarities or differences with at least two “for example”
   - What was the original historical and cultural surroundings of the work?
   - When, where, and how did the audience interact with it?
   - What was the purpose of the work?
   - Was it made for a specific location?
   - Who was the patron?
   - How did the audience respond to it?

Rubric:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CATEGORY</th>
<th>25</th>
<th>20</th>
<th>15</th>
<th>10</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Description (Form)</td>
<td>Make a complete and detailed description of the subject matter and/or elements seen in a work.</td>
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<td>Makes a detailed description of most of the subject matter and/or elements seen in a work.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Makes a detailed description of some of the subject matter and/or elements seen in a work.</td>
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<td>Descriptions are not detailed or complete.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Analysis (Function)</td>
<td>Accurately describes several elements and principles used by the artist and relates how the artists uses them to reinforce the meaning, and feeling of the artwork.</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Accurately describes a few elements and principles used by the artist and relates how these are used by the artist to reinforce the meaning, and feeling of the artwork.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Describes some elements and principles used by the artist, but has difficulty describing how these relate to the meaning or feeling of the artwork.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Struggles to describe the elements.</td>
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<td>Interpretation (Content)</td>
<td>Forms a reasonable analysis of the iconography meaning and is able to support this with evidence from the work.</td>
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<td>Student identifies the literal meaning of the work.</td>
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<td>Student can relate how the work makes him/her feel personally.</td>
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<td>Student finds it difficult to interpret the meaning of the work.</td>
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<td>Evaluation (Context)</td>
<td>Uses multiple criteria to judge the artwork, such as composition, expression, creativity, design, communication of ideas.</td>
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<td>Uses 1-2 criteria to judge the artwork.</td>
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<td>Tries to use aesthetic criteria to judge artwork, but does not apply the criteria accurately.</td>
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<td>Evaluates work as good or bad based on personal taste.</td>
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