Dear Academic Ninjas,

I would like to start with saying thank you for the dedication and tenacity the majority applied to your first official quiz. The majority of you did a lot writing and I appreciate the writing you did.   
We need to work on the following areas: reading the question thoroughly, organizing your information and thoughts, and formatting a written response.

**Reading the question thoroughly**: “Using your 4 Square Note Taker, compare and contrast the ECONOMIES, POPULATIONS, and SOCITIES of the North and South. Minimum 3 paragraphs, each paragraph needs at least 7 sentences.”

* You get to use your note taker to remind yourself of the information you learned. If you note taker is relatively empty you WILL NOT be successful in revising your response. You need to re-read the text and complete your note taker.
* The writing prompt is asking you compare and contrast. It did NOT say find similarities and differences. Compare also means to examine or analyze two different things so you can see if they have similarities or differences. If the things being compared do NOT have similarities then analyze how the two things are different.
* The writing prompt asked you to discuss 3 topics: ECONOMIES, POPULATIONS, and SOCITIES. Too many of you decided to write about climate/geography, technology, and transportation. More writing does not mean better writing.

**Organizing information and thoughts**:

* The writing prompt asked for 3 paragraphs about 3 topics.
* Organize the information so you only discuss one topic in each paragraph.
* Many of you talked about economies, populations, and societies in all three paragraphs, this is improper writing organization.
* Paragraph 1 should compare and contrast the North and South’s ECONOMIES ONLY!
* Paragraph 2 should compare and contrast the North and South’s POPULATIONS ONLY! Populations are specific numbers on the races of people who live there and any population growth mentioned in the text.
* Paragraph 3 should compare and contrast the North and South’s SOCIETIES ONLY! This information includes education, stance on slavery, what these societies do for fun, stance of tariffs (aka taxes), religion, customs, improving public health and welfare, etc…

**Format**:

* Many of you had under or over 3 paragraphs or not enough sentences.
* You should have 3 PARAGRAPHS TOTAL, each paragraph should have the minimum of 7 SENTNECES
* First sentence of each paragraph should be the TOPIC sentence, or the idea the your are comparing and contrasting, such as para 1 being about economies, para 2 about populations, and para 3 about societies.
* The next 3 sentences after your topic sentence should be about the North, the last 3 sentences should be about the South.

**EXAMPLE of WRITING RESPONSE**

**During the 1800’s the North and South had different economies or ways to make money. The North’s economy was heavily based in a multitude of industries such as shipping or transporting goods, textiles, lumber, furs, and mining. Exporting goods and trade was another way the North continued to grow its economy, as well as implementing high taxes or tariffs on imported goods. While industries dominated how the North made money that was not the only way a citizen could earn a livelihood. Many Northerners lived on small farms on which they raised livestock like cattle and food crops to feed their family. NOW DISCUSS IN A SMILAR FASION THE SOUTHERN ECOMONY IN 3 SENTENCES.**

**Insert a topic sentence here about the next topic listed in the writing prompt, which is POPULATIONS. Follow with 3 sentences about the North’s population (numbers, population growth, races, and nationalities of immigrants.) Finally, write 3 sentences about the South’s Population.**

**Insert a topic sentence here about the last topic the writing prompt lists, which is SOCEITIES. Follow with 3 sentences about the North’s society (education, religion, stance on slavery, stance on tariffs, fun, etc…). Lastly, writes sentences about the South’s society.**

DO NOT continue to write about any other topics because the writing prompt did not ask for that. IF you feel you can’t come up with 3 sentence each on the North and South; you really should re-read the text and find the information. I have read this text several times and can find lots of information to include.

I hope this explanation clarified and will assist your writing process, if not you need to come in at lunch or after school. If you do not retake the quiz your first grade stands.

Sincerely,

Ms. Gaither

[hgaither@washoeschools.net](mailto:hgaither@washoeschools.net)

[www.msgaitherhistory.weebly.com](http://www.msgaitherhistory.weebly.com)