

Timothy Ryan
AP Euro
Period C
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Historical Essay Analysis

Title: Isaac Newton

Author:

Author's thesis: Isaac Newton was the single greatest and most influential scientist ever to live.

Author's evidence:

- a) Established a unified theory and model for how the world works
- b) First discovery was that white light contained all the colors of the rainbow
- c) Built the first reflecting telescope (a science used in astronomy today)
- d) Invented integral calculus, most important achievement of modern mathematics and the basis for most subsequent progress in modern science
- e) Discovered and established the unified system of laws of motion
- f) Solved problem of predicting the positions and motions of the stars and planets
- g) Most influential figure in scientific theory

Author's conclusion about the significance of the topic:

The author concludes that Newton was one of the most brilliant scientists to ever live, and his contributions have greatly progressed modern science and scientific theory.

List below questions you have about the reading.

1. Had he not existed, would modern science be where it is at today?
2. Were any other laws of motion later established beyond the four?

To what extent does your knowledge of the period support or conflict with the author's thesis?

My knowledge of the period supports the impact that Newton made on the Enlightenment. Through his accomplishments, not only was system of the scientific method developed further, but many other fields of science were aided as well. His invention of integral calculus allowed modern science to continue, and his accomplishments are representative to the period.

Write a paragraph in your own words explaining the gist of the article, the nature of the evidence, and the significance of the topic.

Isaac Newton was the greatest and most influential scientist who ever lived. He laid the foundations for scientific theories that would later revolutionize the world. During this period, following in the footsteps of many great scientific achievements, he utilized the still-developing scientific method to observe and gain evidence for his experiments. He made accomplishments in mathematics and in the field of mechanics, both of which were crucial to the advancement of modern science. Through his contributions, he allowed every major field of science to progress.