**AP World History**

**Document-Based Question (DBQ) Rubric**

* 25% of overall score
* 7 possible points
* 1 question: will fall within units 3-6
* 60 minutes writing time recommended: 15 minutes for reading, 45 minutes for writing
* always includes 7 documents and requires you to incorporate your outside knowledge into the body of the essay

Rubric Elements and Structure

* **Contextualization (1 point)**: At the beginning of your introductory paragraph, provide 3-4 factual sentences that relate the topic of the prompt to broader historical events, developments or processes that occur before, during or continue after the time frame of the question. In other words, answer, *“How did we get to this point?”* ***“In the years leading up to…”***

* **Thesis (1 point)**: Directly address the prompt and make a plausible argument supporting the position with the *general consensus of the documents*, including 3 body topics. Your thesis can be more than one sentence and should be placed at the end of the introductory paragraph.

Body paragraphs: write 3-4 body paragraphs following the PEA(R) model. Develop body paragraph topics around document themes, making sure each document has a “home.”

* + **Evidence (3 points)**: Support your essay with specific pieces of evidence from the documents. Note that you must describe, rather than simply quote, the content from the sources.
    - 1-2 points
      * 1 point: uses the content from *at least three sources* to address the topic of the prompt
      * 2 points: *supports an argument* in response to the prompt using *at least six documents*
    - 1 point: uses at least one *additional* piece of **outside evidence** relevant to support or qualify an argument
  + **Analysis and reasoning (2 points)**:
    - 1 point: for *at least three documents*, explains **how** or **why** the document’s **point of view, purpose, historical situation, and/or audience** is relevant to an argument. Note that you only need to do *one* of these four options for each document. Aim for analysis of at least four documents to give yourself a cushion.
    - 1 point: for sophisticated and complex argument development supported by the documents and outside evidence
* Conclusion: briefly restate your thesis

(OVER)

DBQ Document Analysis

How or why might each of the following affect the source’s meaning? *When analyzing documents, remember to be HIPP!*

* **H**istorical Situation *(Where and when was the source produced? How might this information affect the meaning of the source? What is going on in the time period that affects the author or source? Why does it matter?)*
* **I**ntended Audience (*For whom was this written? How does that affect how you interpret the document and its reliability?)*
* **P**urpose (*Why is the author creating this source: what was the goal? Does this purpose affect whether the document is reliable?*)
* **P**oint of View (*How could the author’s nationality, class, race, gender, religion, occupation, etc. influence his/her views? Is this document reliable based on the information from the source or the author?*)