

DBQ Essay Outline Guide

Use the following outline to plan and write your essays, in response to a Document Based Question (DBQ). Your evidence will be based on primary or secondary sources that you will be supplied with as well as your own relevant knowledge.

I. INTRODUCTION

- A. Brief background information on the topic or question (date, place, historical context, situation surrounding the issue or question)
- B. Thesis and roadmap of what the essay will be about – Answer the question directly in your thesis statement and clearly state the reasons you are going to offer to prove your argument.

II. BODY PARAGRAPH #1 (Reason one)

- A. Sub-Thesis:
 - a. The first reason that you provided in your thesis statement
- B. Evidence
 - a. Use evidence in reference to the documents or sources to provide two to three details about Reason #1 or your Sub-Thesis
 - i. Make sure that you state which document you are referencing
 - ii. EXAMPLE: Source A
 - b. Use accurate and detailed own knowledge to provide two to three details about Reason #1 or your Sub-Thesis
- C. Argument
 - a. Explanation of why Reason #1 is one factor that answers that question
 - b. Connect your evidence back to your original thesis

III. BODY PARAGRAPH #2 (Reason Two)

- A. Sub-Thesis:
 - a. The second reason that you provided in your thesis statement
- B. Evidence
 - a. Use evidence in reference to the documents or sources to provide two to three details about Reason #2 or your Sub-Thesis
 - i. Make sure that you state which document you are referencing
 - EXAMPLE: Source A
 - b. Use accurate and detailed own knowledge to provide two to three details about Reason #2 or your Sub-Thesis
- C. Argument
 - a. Explanation of why Reason #2 is one factor that answers that question
 - b. Connect your evidence back to your original thesis

IV. BODY PARAGRAPH #3 (Reason three)

- A. Sub-Thesis:
 - a. The third reason that you provided in your thesis statement
- B. Evidence

- a. Use evidence in reference to the documents or sources to provide two to three details about Reason #3 or your Sub-Thesis
 - i. Make sure that you state which document you are referencing
EXAMPLE: Source A
 - b. Use accurate and detailed own knowledge to provide two to three details about Reason #3 or your Sub-Thesis
- C. Argument
- a. Explanation of why Reason #3 is one factor that answers that question
 - b. Connect your evidence back to your original thesis

V. CONCLUSION

- A. Restatement of your thesis
 - a. This is not an exact duplication of your thesis but a restatement (in differing words) of your thesis statement
- B. Summarize the key idea of your argument(s)

DBQ Essay Rubric (Paper 1, Question 4)

<p>Level 0: The response does not reach a standard described by the descriptors to the right.</p>	<p>Level 1-3: The response lacks focus on the question.</p> <p>References to the sources are made, but at this level these references are likely to consist of descriptions of the content of the sources rather than the sources being used as evidence to support the analysis.</p> <p>No own knowledge is demonstrated, or where it is demonstrated, it is inaccurate or irrelevant.</p>	<p>Level 4-6: The response is generally focused on the question.</p> <p>References are made to the sources, and these references are used as evidence to support the analysis.</p> <p>Where own knowledge is demonstrated, this lacks relevance or accuracy.</p> <p>There is little or no attempt to synthesize own knowledge and source material.</p>	<p>Level 7-9: The response is focused on the question.</p> <p>Clear references are made to the source, and these references are used effectively as evidence to support the analysis.</p> <p>Accurate and relevant own knowledge is demonstrated.</p> <p>There is effective synthesis of own knowledge and source material.</p>
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