Name:	Element:
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## 8th Grade DBQ Rubric

Evaluation Criteria	Rubric	Decision rules	SCORE
Thesis / claim (0 – 1 point)	1 point. Responds to the prompt with a historically defensible thesis/ claim that establishes a line of reasoning.	- 1-3 sentences - In introduction or conclusion - Historically defensible - Line of reasoning Example lines of reasoning: X, because A, B and C. Although Y, X, because A, B and C. A, B and C, therefore X.	
Contextualization (0–1 point)	1 point. Describes a broader historical context relevant to the prompt.	- In introduction  - Links the topic to broader historical developments  - AT LEAST TWO specific background facts  - Before, during or after the period.	
Evidence (0–3 points)	Evidence from the documents  1 point. Uses at least two documents to address the topic of the prompt.  OR  2 points. Uses at least four documents to support an argument in response to the prompt.	- Accurately DESCRIBES (rather than simply quoting) the content from the documents     - (To gain TWO points) Uses the content of the documents to support the thesis	
	Evidence beyond the documents  1 point. Uses at least two additional pieces of specific historical evidence (beyond the documents) relevant to an argument about the prompt.	- More than a simple phrase of reference - Different from the evidence used to earn the point for contextualization - Used to support the thesis	
Analysis and reasoning (0–1 points)	1 point.  Demonstrates a complex understanding of the historical issue that is the focus of the prompt, using evidence to corroborate, qualify, or modify an argument that addresses the prompt.	- Corroborates, qualifies, or modifies an argument Examples: Both similarity and difference Both continuity and change Multiple causes for one event Both cause and effect	
Essay structure (0-2 points)	1 point.	- Is divided into paragraphs - Contains an introduction - Contains two or more body paragraphs	
	2 points.	<ul> <li>Division into body paragraphs is logical (one clearly stated point per paragraph)</li> <li>Paragraphs are structured according to PEE or TEA (not just lists of facts)</li> </ul>	
Grammar (0-1 points)	1 point.	- Consistent use of the past tense and pluralization (past tense and plurals are correct > 90% of the time)	
Presentation (0-1 points)	1 point.	- Essay is legible.	

Essay Score						
10 = 100%	9 = 95%	8 = 90%	7 = 80%	6 = 70%	5 = 60%	4 - 0 = 50%
30 points	28.5 points	27 points	24 points	21 points	18 points	15 points*

\* if essay fully attempted

Feedback:		333	,, ,

## Rethink and rewrite: Mistakes allow us an opportunity to grow as learners

**Essay Rewrite Option:** Essay rewrites may earn up to 80% based on the following requirements:

- Complete essay reflection below.
- Essays may be rewritten within 2 weeks of getting your essay back.
- Essays must be written in student hours
- Attach original essay
- Attach original rubric

**Essay Reflection:** Learning without reflecting is like eating without digesting.

- 1. What, if anything, did you do to prepare for the essay?
- 2. What, if anything, would you change for future preparation when given the essay topic beforehand?
- 3. What do you think are the specific reasons for your essay score?
- 4. What specific changes do you need to remember for writing future DBQ essays?