

AP US History Generic DBQ Essay Rubric

The 8-9 Essay

- Contains a well-developed thesis that addresses all parts of the question
- Supports the thesis with effective analysis
- Effectively uses a substantial number of documents
- Supports thesis with substantial and relevant outside information
- May contain minor errors
- Is clearly organized and well written

The 5-7 Essay

- Contain a thesis that addresses part of the question
- Has limited or implicit analysis of these ideals
- Effectively uses some documents
- Supports the thesis with some relevant outside information
- May have errors that do not seriously detract from the quality of the essay
- Shows acceptable organization and writing; language errors do not interfere with the comprehension of the essay

The 2-4 Essay

- Contains a limited or underdeveloped thesis
- Lack analysis; deal with the question in a general, simplistic, incomplete, or superficial manner.
- Merely paraphrases, quotes, or briefly cites documents
- Contains little outside information, or information that is inaccurate or irrelevant
- May contain major errors
- May be poorly organized and/or poorly written

The 0-1 Essay

- Lacks a thesis or simply restates the question
- Exhibits inadequate or incorrect understanding of the question
- Has little or no understanding of the documents or ignores them completely
- Contains no outside information

Remember:

1. 130 Minutes for all three essays on the AP Exam.
2. At the start there is a 15 minute mandatory reading period for the documents before one can begin to write.
3. Plan to use about 45 minutes to write your essay after the 15 minute reading period.