DBQ Essay Response Grading Rubric

Your DBQ essay response will be rated a 0-5 according to the scale below.

To earn a 5, the DBQ essay:
• Thoroughly addresses all aspects of the Task by accurately analyzing and interpreting at least four of the documents
• Includes information from the documents in the body of the essay, but does not copy document
• Includes relevant outside information
• Richly supports essay with relevant facts, examples, and details
• Is a well-developed essay, consistently demonstrating a logical and clear plan of organization
• Includes a strong introduction and conclusion

To earn a 4, the DBQ essay:
• Addresses all aspects of the Task by accurately analyzing and interpreting at least four of the documents
• Includes information from the documents in the body of the essay, but does not copy document
• Includes some relevant outside information
• Includes relevant facts, examples, and details, but discussion may be more descriptive than analytical
• Is a well-developed essay, demonstrating a logical and clear plan of organization
• Includes a good introduction and conclusion

To earn a 3, the DBQ essay:
• Addresses most aspects of the Task or addresses all aspects in a limited way; using some of the documents
• Includes some information from the documents in the body of the essay
• Includes limited or no relevant outside information
• Uses some facts, examples, and details, but discussion is more descriptive than analytical
• Is a satisfactorily developed essay, demonstrating a general plan of organization
• Restates the theme in the introduction and concludes with a simple restatement of the theme

To earn a 2, the DBQ essay:
• Attempts to address some aspects of the Task, making limited use of the documents
• Includes no relevant outside information
• Includes few facts, examples, and details; simply restates contents of the documents
• Is a poorly organized essay, lacking focus
• Has vague or missing introduction and/or conclusion

To earn an 1, the DBQ essay:
• Shows limited understanding of the Task with vague, unclear references to the documents
• Includes no relevant outside information
• Uses little or no accurate or relevant facts, details, or examples
• Attempts to complete the Task, but essay demonstrates a major weakness in organization
• Has vague or missing introduction and/or conclusion

To earn a 0, the DBQ essay:
• Fails to address the question
• Is illegible
• Is missing; a blank paper is handed in