

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