

Advanced Placement United States History

Grading Rubric: DBQ

Score	Rationale
1	The thesis does not address the question. The essay uses a few documents incorrectly, has no outside information and is poorly written.
2	This essay has a thesis that is not fully developed; simplistic treatment of the topic with almost no analysis. It makes cursory references to a few documents and has almost no outside information.
3	This essay has a partially developed thesis and deals with the question in a general manner. Although a number of documents are cited, their treatment is superficial. It has almost no outside information and may contain a major error.
4	This essay has a simplistic thesis that is not fully developed. It has discrete summaries of documents and attempts to make some connections ineffectively. Several documents are quoted with little analysis. It uses documents incorrectly and has very little outside information.
5	This essay has a thesis and some analysis. It attempts to discuss and connect aspects of the topic. The essay effectively uses some documents. Outside information is largely general, with notable exceptions.
6	This essay has a thesis that is consistent and well developed. It responds to the question clearly though simplistically. It discusses documents in context, referring to outside information in ways that support the thesis. Clearly organized and well written. There are a few errors that do not detract from the quality of the essay.
7	This essay has a consistent thesis that discusses reforms and their connections to democratic ideals. Analysis of documents is effective and has some useful outside information. It has no serious errors.
8	This essay has a very well developed thesis and a solid discussion of the topic, in both a general and a specific sense. It effectively uses several of the documents to make a clear and well-supported analysis of the topic. It also makes good use of outside information to support the thesis, and contains no errors.
9	This essay has a sophisticated thesis that is consistently developed throughout the essay. There is an effective analysis of the topic, with excellent connections made and conclusions drawn. There is effective use of the documents, and the essay contains substantial and relevant outside information. It is exceptionally well written.