

DBQ TESTING
A.P. European History
SPRING 2010

BASIC CORE: 1 point each to a total of 6 points

1. Provides an appropriate, explicitly stated thesis that directly addresses all parts of the question. Thesis must not simply restate the question.

The thesis must make some effort to address both causes and responses with some degree of specificity (beyond general analytical categories) for at least one part of the prompt. The thesis must suggest a minimal level of analysis or context drawn from the documents. The thesis need not appear in the first paragraph.

2. Discusses a majority of the documents individually and specifically.

The student must discuss **at least seven documents**—even if used incorrectly—by reference to anything in the box. Documents cannot be referenced together in order to get credit for this point (e.g., “Documents 1, 4, and 6 suggest ...”). Documents can be cited by number or by name, or they can be referenced in other ways that make it clear which document is being discussed.

3. Demonstrates understanding of the basic meaning of a majority of the documents (may misinterpret no more than one).

A student may not significantly misinterpret more than one document. A major misinterpretation is an incorrect analysis or one that leads to an inaccurate grouping or a false conclusion.

4. Supports the thesis with appropriate interpretations of a majority of the documents.

The student must use at least seven documents, and the documents used in the body of the essay must provide support for the thesis. *A student cannot earn this point if no credit was awarded for point 1 (appropriate thesis).*

5. Analyzes point of view or bias in at least three documents.

The student must make a reasonable effort to explain why a particular source expresses the stated view by:

- Relating authorial point of view to author’s place in society (motive, position, status, etc.) OR
- Evaluating the reliability of the source OR
- Recognizing that different kinds of documents serve different purposes OR
- Analyzing the tone of the documents; must be well developed

Note: (1) Attribution alone is not sufficient to earn credit for point of view. (2) It is possible for students to discuss point of view collectively, but this counts for only one of the three point of views.

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EXPANDED CORE: 0–3 points to a total of 9 points

Expands beyond the basic core of 1–6. The basic score of 6 must be achieved before a student can earn expanded core points. Credit awarded in the expanded core should be based on holistic assessment of the essay. Factors to consider in holistic assessment may include:

- Has a clear, analytical, and comprehensive thesis
- Uses all or almost all of the documents (11–12 documents)
- Uses the documents persuasively as evidence
- Shows understanding of nuances of the documents
- Analyzes point of view or bias in at least four documents cited in the essay
- Analyzes the documents in additional ways (e.g., develops more groupings)
- Recognizes and develops change over time
- Brings in relevant “outside” information