

APUSH DBQ RUBRIC

FOR 2020 EXAM ONLY

Name: _____

DBQ: _____

CONTEXTUALIZATION

Describes a broader historical context relevant to the prompt.

The response must relate the topic of the prompt to broader historical events, developments, or processes that occur before, during, or continue after the time frame of the question. This point is not awarded for merely a phrase or a reference.

THESIS / CLAIM

Responds to the prompt with a historically defensible thesis/claim that establishes a line of reasoning.

The thesis must make a claim that responds to the prompt, rather than merely restating or rephrasing the prompt. The thesis must consist of one or more sentences located in one place, either in the introduction or the conclusion.

DOCUMENTS, EVIDENCE, & ANALYSIS

	DESCRIBES	SUPPORTS	EXPLAINS
Doc __			
Doc __			
Doc __			
Doc __			
Doc __			
TOTAL			

Accurately **DESCRIBES** the content of **at least TWO** documents to address the topic of the prompt. Quotes are insufficient to earn this point.

SUPPORTS an argument in response to the prompt using **at least TWO (1 Pt) or FOUR (2 Pts) documents**. These documents should meet (and exceed) the standard set for the description point.

For **ONE or TWO** documents, **EXPLAINS HOW or WHY** the document's point of view, purpose, historical situation, and/or audience is relevant to an argument.

Uses specific historical evidence beyond what is found in the documents relevant to an argument about the prompt. (**one per example – up to TWO points**)

The response must describe the evidence and must use more than a phrase or reference. This additional piece of evidence must be different from the evidence used to earn the point for contextualization.

Demonstrates a complex understanding of the historical development that is the focus of the prompt, using evidence to corroborate, qualify, or modify an argument that addresses the question.

The response must demonstrate a complex understanding, which must be part of the argument and not merely a phrase or reference. This could include:

- Explaining nuance by analyzing multiple variables
- Explaining both similarity and difference, both continuity and change, or multiple causes, or both causes and effects
- Explaining relevant and insightful connections within and across periods
- Confirming the validity of an argument by corroborating multiple perspectives across themes
- Qualifying or modifying an argument by considering diverse or alternative views or evidence

TOTAL POINTS: