

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Class Period: \_\_\_\_\_

## APUSH DBQ Essay Rubric

Criteria		
Thesis	Clear thesis that sets up the argument AND addresses the targeted skill AND directly addresses all parts of the question	1
	Thesis is poorly developed or only partially developed OR may simply restate the question	0
Contextualization	Accurately and explicitly connects historical events/content used to support the thesis to broader historical developments, events, trends, and/or themes	1
	Limited understanding of the question asked, limited connections made between the historical content and the time period and/or broader historical developments, events, trends, and/or themes	0
Synthesis	Essay synthesizes the argument, evidence, analysis of documents, and context into a coherent and persuasive essay AND adds support relevant to the question but beyond the requirements of the prompt (provide counter-argument OR recognize contradictory evidence OR links to larger historical theme by connecting prompt topic to other time periods, geographic areas, contexts, or events OR significantly references additional primary or secondary sources than those given in the DBQ)	1
	Essay lacks full synthesis of the argument AND/OR does not add support relevant to the question and beyond the scope of the prompt	0
Outside Information	Offers analysis of historical examples/evidence beyond the evidence in the documents to support the thesis/argument	1
	Essay lacks information beyond the documents to support thesis AND/OR additional information used does not support the argument (tells more than it proves)	0
Analysis of Documents	Essay gives plausible analysis of the content of <u>all or all but one</u> of the documents that explicitly supports the stated thesis/argument AND uses at least <u>one</u> of the following to support the analysis for <u>all or all but one</u> of the documents: intended audience, purpose, historical context, author's point of view	3
	Essay gives plausible analysis of the content of a <u>majority</u> of the documents that explicitly supports the stated thesis/argument AND uses at least <u>one</u> of the following to support the analysis for the <u>majority</u> of the documents: intended audience, purpose, historical context, author's point of view	2
	Essay gives plausible analysis of the content of a <u>majority</u> of the documents that explicitly supports the stated thesis/argument	1
	Essay merely describes or paraphrases the documents ("tells what vs. shows how")	0

### Grading Scale

Superior = 5	Strong = 4	Adequate = 3	Emerging = 2	Unacceptable = 1	Your Score
7=100	6=90 5=80	4=70	3=60	2=55 1=50	