Appendix: Scoring Rubrics

AP U.S. History document-Based Question rubric

Maximum Possible Points: 7

A. Thesis: 0–1 point

Skills assessed: Argumentation + targeted skill

> States a thesis that directly addresses all parts of the question. The thesis must do more than restate the question.
>
> **1 point**

B. Analysis of historical evidence and support of argument: 0–4 points

Skills assessed: Use of Evidence, Argumentation, + targeted skill **(e.g., Comparison)**

Analysis of documents (0–3 points)				
Offers plausible analysis of the content of a majority of the documents, explicitly using this analysis to support the stated thesis or a relevant argument	**OR**	Offers plausible analysis of BOTH the content of a majority of the documents, explicitly using this analysis to support the stated thesis or a relevant argument; AND at least one of the following for the majority of the documents: • intended audience, • purpose, • historical context, and/or • the author's point of view	**OR**	Offers plausible analysis of BOTH the content of all or all but one of the documents, explicitly using this analysis to support the stated thesis or a relevant argument; AND at least one of the following for all or all but one of the documents: • intended audience, • purpose, • historical context, and/or • the author's point of view
1 point		**2 points**		**3 points**

AND/OR

Analysis of outside examples to support thesis/argument (0–1 point)
Offers plausible analysis of historical examples beyond/outside the documents to support the stated thesis or a relevant argument
1 point

C. Contextualization: 0–1 point

Skill assessed: Contextualization

Accurately and explicitly connects historical phenomena relevant to the argument to broader historical events and/or processes **1 point**

D. Synthesis: 0–1 point

Skill assessed: Synthesis

Response synthesizes the argument, evidence, analysis of documents, and context into a coherent and persuasive essay by accomplishing one or more of the following as relevant to the question:						
Appropriately extends or modifies the stated thesis or argument	OR	Recognizes and effectively accounts for disparate, sometimes contradictory evidence from primary sources and/or secondary works in crafting a coherent argument	OR	Appropriately connects the topic of the question to <u>other</u> historical periods, geographical areas, contexts, or circumstances	OR	(World and European History) Draws on appropriate ideas and methods from different fields of inquiry or disciplines in support of the argument
1 point		**1 point**		**1 point**		**1 point**

Grade Scale Conversion for the DBQ:

$$7 = 100 \mid 6 = 94 \mid 5 = 87 \mid 4 = 79 \mid 3 = 70 \mid 2 = 62 \mid 1 = 55$$