Document-Based Question Rubric

Maximum Possible Points: 7

Thesis/Claim (0-1) Responds to the prompt with a historically defensible thesis/claim that establishes a line of reasoning. To earn this point the thesis must make a claim that responds to the prompt rather than 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. Contextualization (0-1) Describes a broader historical context relevant to the prompt. To earn this point 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 reference. Evidence (0-3) Evidence from the Documents: Uses the content of at least three documents to address the topic of the prompt. (1 point) OR Supports an argument in response to the prompt using at least six documents. (2 points) Evidence beyond the Documents: Uses at least one additional piece of specific historical evidence (beyond that found in the documents) relevant to an argument about the prompt. (1 point) To earn this point the evidence must be described, and it must be more than a phrase or reference. This additional piece of evidence must be different from the evidence used to earn the point for contextualization. Sourcing: For at least three documents, explains how or why the
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Analysis and Sourcing: For at least three documents, explains how or why the
Reasoning (0-2) document's point of view, purpose, historical situation, and/or audience is relevant to an argument. (1 point)
Complexity: Demonstrates a complex understanding of the historical development that is the focus of prompt, using evidence to corroborate, qualify, or modify an argument that addresses the question. (1 point)
This understanding must be part of the argument, not merely a phrase or reference.
TOTAL

SOURCE: AP College Board (Scoring Guidelines - APWH 2018)