

Suggested DBQ Essay Rubric

Jefferson and Political Parties

	4	3	2	1
Introduction and Thesis	Clearly and efficiently identifies topic. Gives the paper an arguable direction. Thesis is clearly defined.	Identifies topic. Thesis is defined and arguable.	Attempts to identify topic. Thesis is difficult to define.	Topic is not defined. Essay lacks a thesis. Introduction does not give paper a direction.
Evidence and Inclusion of Sources	A <i>wide</i> variety of primary sources are used to provide evidence. Logical and appropriate sources are chosen.	A variety of primary sources are used to provide evidence. Most of the sources chosen are logical and appropriate	Not enough primary sources are included as evidence. Many of the sources chosen not logical or appropriate for the given argument.	Little or no primary sources are included as evidence. The sources that are chosen do not fit the topic or provide appropriate evidence.
Analysis	<i>Very</i> effective analysis is applied. Paper demonstrates <i>superb</i> insight and an ability to connect multiple pieces of evidence to craft clear argument.	Effective analysis is applied. Paper demonstrates insight and an ability to connect multiple pieces of evidence together.	Limited analysis. Paper attempts to connect some pieces of evidence, but does not draw appropriate conclusions.	Paper makes little or no attempt to connect evidence or draw appropriate conclusions.
Organization and Style	Paper is well organized into appropriate paragraphs. Sentence structure is very readable and appropriate.	Paper is organized into appropriate paragraphs. Sentence structure is appropriate.	Paper lacks organization. Sentence structure may be repetitive and/or difficult to read.	Paper has virtually no organization. Sentences are very difficult to read.
Spelling and Grammar	No spelling or grammar mistakes.	Few spelling or grammar mistakes.	Many spelling or grammar mistakes.	Excessive spelling or grammar mistakes.