AP World History Document-Based Question Rubric
7 Points Possible

A. THESIS (1 POINT)
[Targeted Skill: Argumentation]

Presents a thesis that:

- Makes a historically defensible claim.
- Responds to all parts of the question.
- Is located in the introduction.

- Develops and supports a cohesive argument that recognizes and accounts for historical complexity by explicitly illustrating relationships among historical evidence such as contradiction, corroboration, and or qualification.

B. DOCUMENT ANALYSIS (2 POINTS)
[Targeted Skill: Analyzing Evidence: Content and Sourcing, and Argumentation]

- Utilizes the content of all of the documents to support the stated thesis or relevant argument.

- Explains the significance of the author’s POV, author’s purpose, historical context, and/or audience for at least six documents.

  A. Historical Context
  #1__ #2__ #3__ #4__ #5__ #6__ #7__

  B. Intended audience
  #1__ #2__ #3__ #4__ #5__ #6__ #7__

  C. Purpose
  #1__ #2__ #3__ #4__ #5__ #6__ #7__

  D. Point of View
  #1__ #2__ #3__ #4__ #5__ #6__ #7__

C. USING EVIDENCE BEYOND THE DOCUMENTS (2 PTS)
[Targeted Skill: Contextualization and Argumentation]

- Situates the argument by explaining the broader historical events, developments, or processes immediately relevant to the question.

- Provides multiple examples or additional pieces of specific evidence beyond those found in the documents to support or qualify the argument.

D. SYNTHESIS (1 POINT)
[Targeted Skill: Synthesis]

Extends the argument by explaining the connections between the argument and ONE of the following:

- A development in a different historical period, situation, era or geographical area.
- A course theme and/or approach to history that is not the focus of the essay (such as political, economic, social, cultural, or intellectual history).
- A different discipline or field of inquiry (such as economics, government and politics, art, history or anthropology).

COMMENTS:
FINISH SCORE: __________/ 7

Thesis/intro: ___complex-split ___complex-simple ___split-simple ___simple
___ Introduction contains vague or “wasted” sentences
___ Essay contains vague statements or generalizations not supported by facts.
___ Strong conclusion ___ Weak conclusion ___ No Conclusion
___ Strong topic sentences ___ Improve topic sentences ___ Good linking sentences
___ Don’t use “I” statements ___ Don’t use I, our, we, us, you, ...
___ Don’t connect issues to “today” (unless asked) ___ Don’t use text, flowery, or colloquial style
___ Poor spelling and grammar ___ Poor penmanship: essay difficult to read

GRADES: 7=97, 6=91, 5=85, 4=78, 3=71, 2=64, 1=57, 0=50