**DBQ Structure**

Follow this simple structure to score well on the DBQ Essay on the AP European History Exam. Many DBQs on the AP Euro Exam lack sound planning and miss the rubrics required components. Please review and memorize this format and you will find success.

**Paragraph 1 – Contextualization & Thesis**

* Contextualization – The “Star Wars” scroll – The big picture in relation to the question – The set up.
* Answer the question/prompt!!! Your thesis must be direct.
* Make sure you clearly layout your groups.

**Paragraphs 2, 3, 4 etc. (Body Paragraphs)**

* Start each paragraph with a clear topic sentence that states the group – Include document numbers – This should support your thesis.
* Write about each document that supports this paragraph’s topic – How does the document. support the topic/thesis? Always use numbers in reference. (EX) “Document 1 states that…
* You could include outside information here as well – Make sure it helps in supporting your argument.
* POV? CAP? Add for at least 4 documents – All if you can.
* Repeat for the other documents of the group – Use ALL the documents!
* Wrap up each paragraph with a sentence or two that shows the relationship of the documents in this group.

**Conclusion**

* Restate your thesis – Make sure you are fully addressing the question.
* Synthesis – What was this event similar to? Make a connection. Must be 3-5 sentences long!