

## Preparing Students to Respond to DBQs A Step by Step Guide

The key to student success is to scaffold and build up to a full length DBQ essay by providing many opportunities for students to interact with visual and short primary sources. When they practice the questioning and analysis skills with shorter and less intimidating pieces, they build their skills and can then apply them successfully with more complex documents.

### **Step 1:**

Whole Class Practice

- Visual analysis
- Political cartoon analysis
- Document/excerpt analysis

### **Step 2:**

Guided and Independent Practice

- 5-A-Day/Warm Up
- TCI Act It Outs
- Dialectal Journals
- HW or in class short response assignments
- Provide Feedback
- APAARTS
- SOAPS

### **Step 3:**

- Assign writing prompt (paragraph or essay) with document
- Whole class explanation – breaking down the prompt
- Review rubric and DBQ with class
- Model and non-model examples of thesis statements, intro paragraphs, or whole essay

### **Step 5:**

- Provide feedback to students on written responses
- Individually or in group

### **Step 6:**

- Continue to provide guided and independent practice
- Provide students opportunities to talk about documents
- Reciprocal Teaching (RT)
- Think, Pair, Write, Share, Write
- Philosophical Chairs
- Socratic Seminar