AP US History

New DBQ Directions

*Directions*: The DBQ is based on the accompanying documents. The documents have been edited for the purpose of this exercise. You are advised to spend 15 minutes reading and planning and 45 minutes writing your answer.

In your response do the following:

* State a relevant thesis that directly addresses all parts of the question
* Support the thesis or a relevant argument with evidence from all, or all but one, of the documents.
* Incorporate analysis of all, or all but one of the documents into your argument.
* Focus your analysis of each document on at least one of the following: intended audience, purpose, historical context, and/or point of view.
* Support your argument with analysis of historical examples outside the documents.
* Connect historical phenomena relevant to your argument to broader events or processes.
* Synthesize the elements above into a persuasive essay that extends your argument, connects it to a different historical context, or accounts for contradictory evidence on the topic.

DBQ Hints:

* ATFQ
* Most important component: THESIS
* Second most important component: OUTSIDE INFORMATION (use as many APUSH terms as possible, properly)
* ORGANIZE your essay so each argument DIRECTLY supports your thesis
  + Do not contradict your thesis in your body paragraphs.
  + If you would like to include information about the opposing viewpoint, do so in your conclusion.
* The documents are only hints to help you showcase your knowledge. Yes, you need to reference them, but you do not need to explain them fully (see rubric).
* Include the documents AS SUPPORT OF YOUR OUTSIDE INFORMATION, but do not directly reference them. In other words, do not write, “In Document 1, Ben Franklin drew…” Instead, site each by writing (Doc 1).
* Do not simply write a laundry list of document descriptions. Group them properly under the most applicable supporting arguments.