

DBQ AS A PRACTICE EXAM FOR THE AP US HISTORY EXAM



GRADES 10-12

Directions: The following question requires you, in sixty minutes, to construct a well structured and supported essay that integrates your interpretation of Documents A-H and your personal knowledge of the Revolutionary War period. Cite evidence from the documents using MLA format.

Prompt: Although Benedict Arnold is remembered by most as simply a traitor to our country, his involvement in the Revolution 1775-77 suggests a more complex narrative. What is Arnold's rightful place in our collective memory of the war for independence?

ASSESSMENT RUBIC

The 8-9 Essay:

- * Contains a well-developed thesis that clearly addresses the question
- * Effective analysis of the documents and outside knowledge is evident
- * Effective use of documents
- * Supports thesis with substantial and relevant outside information (outside knowledge goes beyond the documents)
- * Is clearly organized and well-written
- * May contain minor errors

The 5-7 Essay:

- * Contains a thesis which addresses the question
- * Some analysis of the documents and outside knowledge is present
- * Uses some documents effectively
- * Supports thesis with some outside information
- * Shows evidence of acceptable organization and writing; language errors do not interfere with the comprehension of the essay
- * May contain errors that do not seriously detract from the quality of the essay

The 2-4 Essay:

- * Contains a limited, confused and/or poorly developed thesis
- * Deals with the question in a general manner; simplistic explanation or answers only one part of the question
- * "Laundry list of documents"; quotes or briefly cites some documents
- * Contains little outside information or information that is generally inaccurate or irrelevant
- * Has problems in organization
- * May contain errors



The 0-1 Essay:

- * Contains no thesis or a thesis which does not address the question
- * Exhibits inadequate or inaccurate understanding of the question
- * Contains little or no understanding of the documents or ignores them completely
- * Is so poorly organized or written that it inhibits understanding
- * Contains numerous errors, both major and minor
- * Is completely off topic or left blank