Let's All Learn
How to Write a DBQ

What is a DBQ?

- DBQ stands for document based question.

- A DBQ is an essay that you will create using the documents in the DBQ and your own knowledge.

- The documents in a DBQ might be a picture, newspaper article, photograph, political cartoon, charts, writings from history etc.

- The documents are usually Primary source documents which let you to get closer to the topic by letting you examine history like a historian.

- Your job will be to examine who or what the document is about, when and where it takes place and how the information that is being presented can be used to create an essay that answers your task.

Why do I have to Write a DBQ?

- Writing a DBQ is like the work of real historians.

- Instead of reading a textbook or listening to other people tell you what to think, you get to decide what you think.

How Do I Analyze the Documents?

1. Who is Speaking?

2. What is the Date?

3. What is the Explicit (clearly defined) Meaning?

4. What is the Implicit (implied or what it might mean) Meaning?

5. Is it a Primary or Secondary source of information?

How do I Write a DBQ?

1. Read the directions page. Understand the historical context and the task.

2. Analyze and answer the scaffolded questions for each of the documents

3. Create a box outline of the documents deciding which document will be used for each of the tasks. Example:

- Describe how New Yorkers and others worked for women's rights

Describe how New Yorkers worked for women's rights.	**1, 3, 5**
Describe how others worked for women's rights.	**2, 3, 4, 6**

How do I Write a DBQ?

4. Determine how many paragraphs are needed in the essay.

5. You need one paragraph for the introduction, one for every task you must write about and a conclusion

- Describe how New Yorkers and others worked for women's rights

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Introduction + **Body Paragraph** **Body Paragraph** + **Conclusion**