Document-Based Question (DBQ)

Reading Time- 10 Minutes

Writing Time- 40 Minutes

*Directions:* The following question is based on the accompanying Documents 1–10.

(The documents have been edited for the purpose of this exercise.)

This question is designed to test your ability to work with and understand historical documents. Write an essay that:

• Has a relevant thesis and supports that thesis with evidence from the documents.

• Uses all of the documents.

• Analyzes the documents by grouping them in as many appropriate ways as possible. Does not simply summarize the documents individually.

• Takes into account the sources of the documents and analyzes the authors’ points of view.

• Identifies and explains the need for at least one additional type of document.

You may refer to relevant historical information not mentioned in the documents.

**Using the documents, analyze the unifying and divisive forces of nationalism in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries.**

**Document 1**

*Source: Giuseppe Mazzini, the founder of Young Italy, from an essay entitled “Europe: Its Conditions and Prospects,” 1852.*

Europe no longer possesses unity of faith, of mission, or of aim. Such unity is a necessity to the world. . . There are in Europe two great questions; or rather, the question of the transformation of authority, that is to say, of the Revolution, has assumed two forms; the question which all have agreed to call social, and the question of nationalities. The first is more exclusively agitated in France, the second in the heart of the other peoples in Europe. . .

The question of nationality can only be resolved by destroying the treaties of 1815, and changing the map of Europe and its public Law. The question of nationalities, rightly understood, is the alliance of the peoples; the balance of powers based upon new foundations; the organization of the work that Europe has to accomplish. . .

They speak the same language, they bear about them the impress of consanguinity, they kneel beside the same tombs, they glory in the same tradition; and they demand to associate freely . . . in order to elaborate and express their idea. . .

The map of Europe has to be remade.

**Document 2**

*Source: Theodor Herzl, Zionist leader, from a pamphlet entitled The Jewish State, 1896.*

In countries where we have lived for centuries we are still regarded as strangers, and often by those whose ancestors were not yet dwelling in the land where the Jews had already experienced suffering…

Let us be granted sovereignty over a part of the glove large enough to satisfy the rightful requirements of a nation; the rest we shall handle ourselves.

**Document 3**

*Source: Ho Chi Minh, president of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam, from his Declaration of Independence of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, 1945.*

“All men are created equal. They are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights; among these are Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness.”

This immortal statement appeared in the Declaration of Independence of the United States of America in 1776. In a broader sense, it means: All the peoples on earth are equal from birth, all the peoples have a right to live and to be happy and free. . .

Nevertheless, for more than eighty years, the French imperialists. . . have enforced inhuman laws; they have set up three different political regimes in the North, the Center, and the South of Viet Nam in order to wreck our county’s oneness and prevent our people from being united.

Viet Nam has the right to enjoy freedom and independence and in fact has become a free independent country. The entire Vietnamese people are determined to mobilize all their physical and mental strength, to sacrifice their lives and property in order to safeguard their freedom and independence.

**Document 4**

*Source: Declaration of the Rights of Man and the Citizen, issued by the French National Assembly, 1789.*

The source of all sovereignty resides essentially in the nation; no group, no individual may exercise authority not emanating expressly therefrom.

**Document 5**

*Source: Simon Bolivar, “The Angostura Address,” delivered before a congress convened to organize a republic for Venezuela, 1819.*

Americans by birth and Europeans by law, we find ourselves engaged in a dual conflict: we are disputing with the natives for titles of ownership, and at the same time struggling to maintain ourselves in the country that gave us birth against the opposition of the invaders.

**Document 6**

*Source: Ziya Gokalp, Turkish nationalist, from an essay titled “On Turkism,” 1923.*

The Tanzimatists said to them: “You are Ottoman subjects, do not claim a national existence that is distinct from that of other nations. If you do, you will cause the destruction of the Ottoman Empire.

**Document 7**

*Source: Ernst Moritz Arndt, nineteenth-century German poet and nationalist*.

What is the Germans fatherland?  
So name me that big land!  
Wherever the German language is spoken  
And God sings hymns in heaven,  
That’s what it shall be! That’s what it shall be!  
Brave German, call that your own!

**Document 8**

*Source: Louis Kossuth, Hungarian nationalist leader, in a speech at a Congressional banquet given in his honor in Washington, D.C., 1852.*

We Hungarians are very fond of the principle of municipal self government, and we have a natural horror against the principle of centralization. That fond attachment to municipal self-government without which there is no provincial freedom possible, is a fundamental feature of our national character. . .

Where the cradle of our Savior stood, and where this divine doctrine was founded, there now another faith rules, and the whole of Europe’s armed pilgrimage could not avert this fate from that sacred spot, nor stop the rushing waves of Islamism absorbing the Christian empire of Constantine. We stopped these rushing waves. The breast of my nation proved a breakwater to them. We guarded Christendom, that Luthers and Calvins might reform it.