AP LANG SYNTHESIS VS. APUSH DBQ

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Our history teacher tells us not to write our essays the way we write them in English. Who are we supposed to believe?



5 MIN QUICKWRITE:

Step by step directions for making a peanut butter sandwich

AUDIENCE

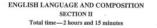
ALL writing happens for audiences



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SYNTHESIS ASSESSMENT



Question 1

Suggested reading and writing time—55 minutes. It is suggested that you spend 15 minutes reading the question, analyzing and evaluating the sources, and 40 minutes writing your response. Note: You may begin writing your response before the reading period is over.

(This question counts for one-third of the total essay section score.)

Eminent domain is the power governments have to acquire property from private owners for public use. The rationale behind eminent domain is that governments have greater legal authority over lands within their domaine than do private owners. Eminent domain has been instituted in one way or another throughout the world for hundreds of years.

Carefully read the following six sources, including the introductory information for each source. Then synthesize material from at least three of the sources and incorporate it into a coherent, well-developed essay that defends, challenges, or qualifies the notion that eminent domain is productive and beneficial.

Your argument should be the focus of your essay. Use the sources to develop your argument and explain the reasoning for it. Avoid merely summarizing the sources. Indicate clearly which sources you are drawing from, whether through direct quotation, paraphrase, or summary. You may cite the sources as Source A, Source B, etc., or by using the descriptions in parentheses.

Source A	(U.S. Department of Justice)
Source B	(Carney)
Source C	(Somin)
Source D	(Porter)
Source E	(cartoon)
Source F	(Narciso)

Stance (student position)
Engagement of sources
Accurate citation
Control of prose





2018 AP[®] US HISTORY FREE-RESPONSE QUESTIONS

UNITED STATES HISTORY SECTION II Total Time—1 hour and 40 minutes

Question 1 (Document-Based Question) Suggested reading and writing time: 1 hour

It is suggested that you spend 15 minutes reading the documents and 45 minutes writing your response. Note: You may begin writing your response before the reading period is over.

Directions: Question 1 is based on the accompanying documents. The documents have been edited for the purpose of this exercise.

In your response you should do the following.

- Respond to the prompt with a historically defensible thesis or claim that establishes a line of reasoning.
- Describe a broader historical context relevant to the prompt.
- · Support an argument in response to the prompt using at least six documents.
- Use at least one additional piece of specific historical evidence (beyond that found in the documents) relevant to an argument about the prompt.
- For at least three documents, explain how or why the document's point of view, purpose, historical situation, and/or audience is relevant to an argument.
- Use evidence to corroborate, qualify, or modify an argument that addresses the prompt.

- **X** Historical thinking **X** Argumentation **X** Use of evidence **X** Contextualization
- **X** Synthesis



At your tables, please compare scoring guidelines and reading annotations for both tasks

- X What conclusions can you draw about audience?
- X What are some potential classroom implications?



SIMILARITIES

- **X** Directive prompt *implies* question (evaluation or proposal)
- **X** Students must read 6–7 sources in light of task
- × 15 additional min to read and annotate
- **X** Essay must articulate a central claim or thesis
- X Students must use sources to support position



DIFFERENCES

Synthesis

- **X** Read for claims
- **X** Should question authors
- X Must incorporate at least 3 sources
- X No real benefit to external evidence
- Holistic 9 point scoring scale
- X Control of prose required

DBQ

- **X** Read for facts
- **X** Should recognize historical context
- **X** Must incorporate at least 6 docs
- X Must incorporate at least one example of external evidence
- Scoring based on accumulation of specific tasks (1 point per)
- × No real evaluation of prose







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