

# 2019 APUSH DBQ Sample Responses

## Political Reform in the Progressive Era



The 2019 APUSH DBQ about the success political reform during the Progressive Era can be accessed [here](#).

### Five sample essays are included in this collection:

<a href="#"><u>SAMPLE RESPONSE A</u></a> <i>Exemplar</i>	<b>SCORE:</b> <b>7</b>	This is the essay that I wrote in response to the prompt. I completed it in less than one hour. I like for students to be able to see what I would consider to be an ideal essay – even if very few of them would be able to replicate it.
<a href="#"><u>SAMPLE RESPONSE B</u></a> <i>Full Credit</i>	<b>SCORE:</b> <b>7</b>	I have included this essay in the interest of providing teachers and students with more of a standard full credit essay. The exemplar essay far exceeds the minimum requirements for full credit.
<a href="#"><u>SAMPLE RESPONSE C</u></a> <i>Evidence-Heavy</i>	<b>SCORE:</b> <b>5</b>	This essay takes an evidence-heavy approach, using six documents accompanied by little analysis.
<a href="#"><u>SAMPLE RESPONSE D</u></a> <i>Analysis-Heavy</i>	<b>SCORE:</b> <b>4</b>	This essay takes an analysis-heavy approach, using only four documents but providing POV+ analysis for three.
<a href="#"><u>SAMPLE RESPONSE E</u></a> <i>Minimalist</i>	<b>SCORE:</b> <b>3</b>	This essay is included just to demonstrate that a student can score three points (above average) very easily by writing a thesis statement, referencing three documents, and including outside evidence.

### DOCUMENTS IN BRIEF:

<b>DOC 1</b>	Jane Addams describes the political machines of the 1890s in a book published in 1910.
<b>DOC 2</b>	President Teddy Roosevelt advocates government regulation of trusts.
<b>DOC 3</b>	An article from the <i>Harvard Law Review</i> by Julian W. Mack that advocates reforms in the juvenile justice system to encourage rehabilitation of juvenile offenders rather than to punish them harshly.
<b>DOC 4</b>	Governor Hiram Johnson of California advocates the adoption of initiative, referendum, and recall.
<b>DOC 5</b>	A letter to President Woodrow Wilson from the NAACP protesting his administration's policy of segregating the federal workforce.
<b>DOC 6</b>	James Couzens, a Ford Motor Company executive who became the Detroit Commissioner of Police, presents a positive report on his reforms of the department to make law enforcement more efficient.
<b>DOC 7</b>	A propaganda poster from the Anti-Saloon League with the headline "WET" or "DRY," with a brewer on one side and a woman holding her children on the other. The bottom of the poster says, "VOTE DRY."

## SAMPLE RESPONSE A (7/7)

Contextualization: Industrialization, New Immigrants, Progressive Goals		
Regulation of Business	Political Reform	Moral Improvement
Doc 2 – Roosevelt Context – Meat Inspection / FDA OE – Clayton Antitrust Act	Doc 1 – Addams Doc 4 – California Governor OE – Progressive Amendments Doc 3 – Juvenile Justice	Doc 7 – Prohibition Propaganda OE – 18 <sup>th</sup> Amendment, Organized Crime, and Repeal
Scientific Principles	I generally recommend only three groups, but in this case, I laid out my argument in the format in which I teach the Progressive Era, as I wanted to see how my framework for teaching Progressivism would fit into a DBQ. This would still be a full credit essay even if one of the single document paragraphs were removed from the essay.	
Doc 6 – Detroit PD Doc 5 – NAACP OE – Birth of a Nation		

<p>At the turn of the twentieth century, the United States faced fresh new challenges as industrialization led to the growth of big cities and big business. “New” immigrants came from Southern and Eastern Europe with no knowledge of the English language or the values of American democracy. Progressives sought to bring order to the chaos and organize society based on scientific principles and promote moral improvement and the regulation of business through political reform. While the Progressives were mostly successful in bringing about political change in the United States between 1890 and 1920 in terms of regulating business, reducing corruption, and implementing reforms based on the science of the time, some of their reforms were repudiated by future generations of Americans.</p>	<p><b>CONTEXTUALIZATION</b> is furnished with references to industrialization and big business, a description of the New Immigrants, and an outline of the goals of the Progressives.</p> <p>A <b>THESIS</b> is present that makes a <b>historically defensible</b> claim supported by a <b>line of reasoning</b> that previews each paragraph’s main argument.</p>
<p>Progressives had many victories in their quest to regulate business. During the Gilded Age, the United States government did little to regulate big business and legislated mostly in support of business interests. In a 1902 speech, President Teddy Roosevelt called for more government “supervision” of large corporations (Doc 2). As president, Roosevelt expanded the government’s role by signing the Meat Inspection Act and the Pure Food and Drug Act, which were the first government regulations of food production. During Woodrow Wilson’s administration, the Clayton Antitrust Act was passed, giving the government much more power to break trusts than it had had under the much weaker Sherman Antitrust Act.</p>	<p>A <b>TOPIC SENTENCE</b> makes it clear that this paragraph will address Progressives’ attempts to regulate big business.</p> <p><b>DOC 2</b> is accurately described and used as evidence to support the claim in the topic sentence.</p> <p>The Meat Inspection Act and the FDA provide <b>HISTORICAL CONTEXT</b> for <b>DOC 2</b>.</p> <p>The Clayton Antitrust Act provides <b>OUTSIDE EVIDENCE</b> that supports the claim in the topic sentence.</p>
<p>Progressives also sought to promote honest government, pass democratic reforms, and reform the legal system. They were mostly successful at this, but it took time. Jane Addams, founder of the Hull House in Chicago – an organization that sought to help immigrants assimilate into American society – wrote about how most immigrants in the 1850s were beholden to political machines for their jobs (Doc 1). Immigrants tended</p>	<p>A <b>TOPIC SENTENCE</b> makes it clear that this paragraph will address Progressives’ attempts to reform government.</p> <p><b>DOC 1</b> is accurately described and used as evidence to support the claim in the topic sentence.</p>

<p>to be appreciative of political machines, such as Boss Tweed's Tammany Hall machine because these machines helped them gain employment and a sense of belonging. However, more accountable and honest democratic processes were instituted later in the Progressive Era, such as reforms of initiative, referendum, and recall advocated by Hiram Johnson, the governor of California (Doc 4). Although all states did not implement these reforms and they were never adopted at the federal level, they have been used in many states over the years to institute reforms that elected legislatures have been reluctant to institute, such as the legalization of marijuana in several states. Political reforms at the federal level included the 16<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, and 19<sup>th</sup> Amendments, which instituted the federal income tax, the direct election of senators, and women's suffrage – all of which provided for a more egalitarian and democratic political community. It was also a kinder political community, as legal experts like Julian Mack of the <u>Harvard Law Review</u> advocated for legal reforms to rehabilitate juvenile offenders.</p>	<p>The descriptions of the Hull House and the Tweed Ring both provide <b>HISTORICAL CONTEXT</b> for <b>DOC 1</b>.</p> <p>This paragraph incorporates <b>CHANGE OVER TIME</b>, making use of historical reasoning to support the argument.</p> <p><b>DOC 4</b> is accurately described and used as evidence to support the claim in the topic sentence.</p> <p>The significance of ballot initiatives beyond the time period shows an <b>INSIGHTFUL CONNECTION</b> between periods.</p> <p>The Progressive Amendments are presented as <b>OUTSIDE EVIDENCE</b> to support the claim in the topic sentence.</p> <p><b>DOC 3</b> is accurately described and used as evidence to support the claim in the topic sentence.</p>
<p>Progressives also sought to use government power to promote moral improvement. The most striking example of this, the 18<sup>th</sup> Amendment, was a success, but in an epic failure sort of way. Prohibitionists sought to portray alcohol as fundamentally unsafe for women and children in propaganda pieces, such as that published by the Anti-Saloon League where a mother is holding her children close to protect them from an evil brewer (Doc 7). While the passage of the 18<sup>th</sup> Amendment was a victory for Progressives in their quest to promote moral improvement, the result was an increase in organized crime and disregard for the laws, as Al Capone and other gangsters supplied people with what they couldn't get legally. After a decade of "bathtub gin" and a stock market crash, the 21<sup>st</sup> Amendment was ratified, repealing the 18<sup>th</sup> Amendment and making Americans free to drown their sorrows in the midst of the Great Depression. Other Progressive ideas, like eugenics, also fell out of favor – especially after the Nazis and WWII.</p>	<p>A <b>TOPIC SENTENCE</b> makes it clear that this paragraph will address Progressives' attempts to use government power to promote moral improvement.</p> <p><b>NOTE:</b> The 18<sup>th</sup> Amendment is referenced, but the writer never explicitly identifies what it did.</p> <p><b>DOC 7</b> is accurately described and used as evidence to support the claim in the topic sentence.</p> <p>The discussion of Prohibition provides <b>HISTORICAL CONTEXT</b> for <b>DOC 7</b>.</p> <p><b>NOTE:</b> This brief mention of eugenics would not be sufficient to stand on its own as outside evidence since it is not explained.</p>
<p>Finally, Progressives sought to organize society based on scientific principles. They had successes in this, but some of these successes were tragic and later repudiated. Henry Ford brought Frederick Taylor's principles of scientific management to his assembly line, which made producers more efficient than ever. James Couzens, one of Ford's managers, brought these principles to the Detroit Police Department with a great deal of success (Doc 6). Since Couzens was the police commissioner, he may have been prone to exaggerate the successes of his efforts for his own benefit and to persuade taxpayers that their dollars were being well-spent. The Progressive Era also fell in the middle of the</p>	<p>A <b>TOPIC SENTENCE</b> makes it clear that this paragraph will address Progressives' science-based reforms.</p> <p><b>DOC 6</b> is accurately described and used as evidence to support the claim in the topic sentence.</p> <p>The consideration of Couzens' motives provides <b>POINT OF VIEW ANALYSIS</b> for <b>DOC 6</b>.</p>

<p>worst time in the history of American race relations – a time in which many intellectuals believed that the white race was superior to other races. In line with the prevailing belief in scientific racism, Woodrow Wilson’s administration segregated the federal workforce, which had been integrated under previous Republican administrations. WEB DuBois and the NAACP protested against this (Doc 5), but this was a time when “Birth of a Nation,” which glorified the KKK, was the number one film in America. Wilson’s segregation of the federal workforce was a victory for progressive organization of society based on prevailing scientific principles of the day, but it’s a disgraceful mark on American history looking back from the perspective of today’s more inclusive society.</p>	<p><b>DOC 5</b> is accurately described and used as evidence to support the claim in the topic sentence.</p> <p>The analysis of race relations during the Progressive Era – both before and after the document is presented as evidence - provides <b>HISTORICAL CONTEXT</b> for <b>DOC 5</b>.</p>
<p>While Progressives were mostly successful in their efforts to regulate business, promote political reform, improve morals, and legislate based on science, some of their reforms – such as prohibition and segregation – were repudiated by later generations.</p>	<p><b>THESIS RE-STATED</b> without looking back at the original thesis</p>

**SCORING SUMMARY      SAMPLE RESPONSE A (7/7)**

<b>Contextualization</b>	<b>1</b>	The descriptions of the New Immigrants and goals of Progressive reformers provide valuable historical context.
<b>Thesis</b>	<b>1</b>	The thesis included a valid and defensible line of reasoning with a clear preview of points.
<b>Accurately Described (3+)</b>	<b>1</b>	All documents are accurately described.
<b>Supporting Evidence (6+)</b>	<b>1</b>	All documents are used as evidence to support a claim.
<b>POV+ (3+)</b>	<b>1</b>	Five documents are analyzed for POV, Historical Context, and Purpose
<b>Outside Evidence</b>	<b>1</b>	Clayton Antitrust Act and Progressive Amendments
<b>Complex Understanding</b>	<b>1</b>	The essay makes a complex and nuanced argument supported by strong evidence and analysis that goes beneath the surface.
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>7</b>	

This sample essay was written in order to provide teachers and students with possible approaches to completing the AP US History DBQ. Please don’t hesitate to [contact me](#) with questions or any feedback you might have.

## SAMPLE RESPONSE B (7/7)

Contextualization: <i>Gilded Age</i>		
Regulation of Business	Political Reform	Regrettable Reforms
<p>Doc 2 – Roosevelt Context – Meat Inspection / FDA OE – Clayton Antitrust Act Doc 6 – Detroit PD (POV/Purpose)</p>	<p>Doc 1 – Addams Doc 4 – California Governor POV – more powerful governor Doc 3 – Juvenile Justice</p>	<p>Doc 7 – Prohibition Propaganda Context – Repeal Doc 5 – NAACP</p>

<p>During the <i>Gilded Age</i>, America industrialized at an unprecedented rate and became the greatest industrial producer in the world. With the growth of big business, ordinary citizens became concerned that the government didn't care about them, but only the wealthy business interests. This was seen in the cartoon, "Bosses of the Senate," which had monopolists looking down at the senators who were subject to them. The Populists, who were rural farmers, tried to reform government and failed, but the more educated Progressives had more success. <b>While Progressives passed many successful political reforms that regulated business and made the government more democratic, there were some reforms that were later looked on as regrettable.</b></p>	<p><b>CONTEXTUALIZATION</b> is furnished with references to industrialization and big business, with a specific reference to a popular political cartoon at the time and to the Populist Party.</p> <p>A <b>THESIS</b> is present that makes a <b>historically defensible</b> claim supported by a <b>line of reasoning</b> that previews each paragraph's main argument.</p>
<p>Progressive reformers had a lot of success passing legislation to regulate business. Teddy Roosevelt, the president, said that corporations needed to be controlled and supervised by the government (Doc 2). In this speech, Roosevelt was sharing the principles of his Square Deal, his program that promised to regulate business and protect consumers. The government did gain power over big business during the Progressive Era, as shown by the Clayton Antitrust Act, a strong act to regulate business that replaced the much weaker Sherman Antitrust Act. But this didn't mean that government and business were enemies during the Progressive Era. Sometimes, business leaders became involved in government to make it more efficient. James Couzens, who had been a manager of the Ford Motor Company, reformed the Detroit Police Department to make it more efficient (Doc 6). The Progressives successfully balanced the relationship between government and big business, providing for more regulation.</p>	<p>A <b>TOPIC SENTENCE</b> makes it clear that this paragraph will address Progressives' attempts to regulate big business.</p> <p><b>DOC 2</b> is accurately described and used as evidence to support the claim in the topic sentence.</p> <p>The description of the Square Deal provides <b>HISTORICAL CONTEXT</b> for <b>DOC 2</b>.</p> <p>The Clayton Antitrust Act provides <b>OUTSIDE EVIDENCE</b> that supports the claim in the topic sentence.</p> <p><b>DOC 6</b> is accurately described and used as evidence to support the claim in the topic sentence.</p>
<p>The Progressives were able to pass reforms that made government more honest, democratic, and protective of people who needed it. Jane Addams, a progressive reformer, wrote about how in the 1890s, political machines controlled politics and people voted based on who gave them jobs (Doc 1). By 1911, California had elected a governor, Hiram Johnson, who had run on a progressive agenda, advocating for democratic reforms like initiative, referendum, and recall (Doc 4). As a popular governor, maybe Johnson planned to use these reforms to increase his power by appealing directly to the people and not having to depend on the legislature. Progressive</p>	<p>A <b>TOPIC SENTENCE</b> makes it clear that this paragraph will address Progressives' attempts to reform government.</p> <p><b>DOC 1</b> is accurately described and used as evidence to support the claim in the topic sentence.</p> <p><b>DOC 4</b> is accurately described and used as evidence to support the claim in the topic sentence.</p> <p>The analysis of possible ulterior motives provides <b>POINT OF VIEW</b> or <b>PURPOSE</b> analysis for <b>DOC 4</b>.</p>

<p>experts, such as Julian Mack of the <u>Harvard Law Review</u>, advocated for reforms in the justice system like giving juvenile offenders a second chance and not treating them the same way as adults (Doc 3). Our justice system treats juveniles differently today, so Progressive reformers have had a meaningful impact.</p>	<p><b>DOC 3</b> is accurately described and used as evidence to support the claim in the topic sentence.</p>
<p>While the Progressives passed a lot of reforms that are celebrated today, there were some reforms that Americans regretted later. Progressives thought that government should protect people from vices, like drinking alcohol. Prohibitionists printed propaganda pieces, like one published by the Anti-Saloon League in 1918, that portrayed a beer brewer as evil and against the interests of women and children (Doc 7). While Prohibition was successfully put into the Constitution, it was later repealed because it resulted in a rise in organized crime because Americans were going to find some way to get their alcohol – legally or illegally. President Woodrow Wilson also segregated the federal government employees, using the excuse that it would make employees safer and make the government more efficient (very progressive), but the NAACP protested this move in a letter to the president, claiming that the actual result was that African Americans were humiliated (Doc 5). Since the members of the NAACP were African Americans who were directly affected by the changes, they were in a better position to say how Wilson’s segregation plan affected them than Wilson and other white people who made the decision.</p>	<p>A <b>TOPIC SENTENCE</b> makes it clear that this paragraph will address reforms that were later regretted.</p> <p><b>DOC 7</b> is accurately described and used as evidence to support the claim in the topic sentence.</p> <p>The discussion of the failure of Prohibition provides <b>HISTORICAL CONTEXT</b> for <b>DOC 7</b>.</p> <p><b>DOC 5</b> is accurately described and used as evidence to support the claim in the topic sentence.</p> <p>The use of demographic analysis to bolster the document’s credibility provides <b>POINT OF VIEW</b> analysis for <b>DOC 5</b>.</p>
<p>While Progressive reformers were very successful reforming the American political system to make the government more democratic and regulate business, some of the reforms passed during this time were later regretted.</p>	<p><b>THESIS RE-STATED</b> without looking back at the original thesis</p>

**SCORING SUMMARY      SAMPLE RESPONSE B (7/7)**

<b>Contextualization</b>	<b>1</b>	The Gilded Age is described to provide historical context for the essay.
<b>Thesis</b>	<b>1</b>	The thesis included a valid and defensible line of reasoning with a clear preview of points.
<b>Accurately Described (3+)</b>	<b>1</b>	All documents are accurately described.
<b>Supporting Evidence (6+)</b>	<b>1</b>	All documents are used as evidence to support a claim.
<b>POV+ (3+)</b>	<b>1</b>	Four documents are analyzed for POV, Historical Context, and Purpose
<b>Outside Evidence</b>	<b>1</b>	Clayton Antitrust Act
<b>Complex Understanding</b>	<b>1</b>	The essay makes a complex and nuanced argument supported by strong evidence and analysis that goes beneath the surface.
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>7</b>	

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## SAMPLE RESPONSE C (5/7)

Regulation of Business	Political Democracy
<p>Doc 2 – Roosevelt (Context – Meat Inspection / FDA)            Doc 6 – Detroit PD (business applied to gov)            Doc 7 – Prohibition Poster</p>	<p>Doc 1 – Addams            Doc 4 – California Governor            OE – Progressive Amendments            Doc 5 – NAACP</p>

<p>After the Civil War, the United States government was focused on helping industrialize the United States. With the rise of Carnegie Steel, Standard Oil, and the transcontinental railroads, the United States economy grew at an unprecedented rate. Legislation was passed to protect business interests, but not much was done to help ordinary people. The Populists tried to reform government but could never get anyone elected as president. It was the Progressives in the early twentieth century that were able to pass needed reforms. <b>The Progressive reformers were very successful in bringing political change to the United States in order to regulate business and make the government more democratic.</b></p>	<p><b>CONTEXTUALIZATION</b> is furnished with references to industrialization and big business, government cooperation with big business during the Gilded Age, and the failure of the Populists.</p> <p>A <b>THESIS</b> is present that makes a <b>historically defensible</b> claim supported by a <b>line of reasoning</b> that previews each paragraph’s main argument.</p>
<p>During the Progressive Era, the government was able to control corporations and businesses that had been out of control during the Gilded Age. Teddy Roosevelt, the president, said that corporations needed to be controlled and supervised by the government (Doc 2). Some Progressives wanted to regulate business to the point of shutting down some businesses, such as when Prohibitionists made posters advocating that the government make alcohol illegal, such as a poster from the Anti-Saloon League telling people to vote “dry” because it will protect innocent women and children from evil beer brewers (Doc 7). Even though the government regulated business during the Progressive Era, this was not hostile to business because business leaders also became involved in government to make it more efficient. James Couzens, who had been a manager of the Ford Motor Company, reformed the Detroit Police Department to make it more efficient, making the city a safer place to live (Doc 6).</p>	<p>A <b>TOPIC SENTENCE</b> makes it clear that this paragraph will address Progressives’ attempts to regulate big business.</p> <p><b>DOC 2</b> is accurately described and used as evidence to support the claim in the topic sentence.</p> <p><b>DOC 7</b> is accurately described and used as evidence to support the claim in the topic sentence.</p> <p><b>DOC 6</b> is accurately described and used as evidence to support the claim in the topic sentence.</p>
<p>Progressives also reformed government to make it more honest and democratic. Jane Addams, a progressive reformer, wrote about how political machines dominated politics in the 1890s and how corrupt state and local governments were (Doc 1). By 1911, California had elected a governor who wanted to make the government more democratic with reforms like initiative, referendum, and recall (Doc 4). The Constitution was even amended to make the federal government more democratic. These amendments included the Seventeenth Amendment, which provided for the direct election of senators so that they would no longer be appointed by state legislatures, but elected by the people. Sometimes, though, democracy wasn’t a good thing, such as when</p>	<p>A <b>TOPIC SENTENCE</b> makes it clear that this paragraph will focus on democratic reforms.</p> <p><b>DOC 1</b> is accurately described and used as evidence to support the claim in the topic sentence.</p> <p><b>DOC 4</b> is accurately described and used as evidence to support the claim in the topic sentence.</p> <p>The Seventeenth Amendment is uses as <b>OUTSIDE EVIDENCE</b> to support the topic sentence.</p>

Woodrow Wilson segregated federal employees because that is what the majority of Americans thought proper to do at that time. In a protest letter from the NAACP, African American leaders complained to Wilson that segregating the federal workforce was humiliating to their race and would not make their jobs or their position in society safer (Doc 5). It was only later that the United States government would pass laws to protect minorities.	<b>DOC 5</b> is accurately described and used as evidence to support the claim in the topic sentence.
Progressives were very successful in achieving political reforms during the Progressive Era because they passed laws to regulate business and to make the government more democratic.	<b>THESIS RE-STATED</b> without looking back at the original thesis

## **SCORING SUMMARY      SAMPLE RESPONSE C (5/7)**

<b>Contextualization</b>	<b>1</b>	Contextualization was not attempted.
<b>Thesis</b>	<b>1</b>	The thesis included a valid and defensible line of reasoning with a clear preview of points.
<b>Accurately Described (3+)</b>	<b>1</b>	Six documents are accurately described.
<b>Supporting Evidence (6+)</b>	<b>1</b>	Six documents are used to support arguments.
<b>POV+ (3+)</b>	<b>0</b>	There is no attempt to analyze documents for POV+.
<b>Outside Evidence</b>	<b>1</b>	Seventeenth Amendment
<b>Complex Understanding</b>	<b>0</b>	This essay does not qualify for the complexity point.
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5</b>	

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## SAMPLE RESPONSE D (4/7)

Regulation of Business	Political Democracy
<p>Doc 2 – Roosevelt Context – Meat Inspection / FDA OE – Clayton Antitrust Act Doc 6 – Detroit PD (business applied to gov)</p>	<p>Doc 1 – Addams Doc 4 – California Governor</p>

<p>Progressive era reforms were very successful in fostering political change between 1890 and 1920 because the government was able to regulate business and become more democratic.</p>	<p>A <b>THESIS</b> is present that makes a <b>historically defensible</b> claim supported by a <b>line of reasoning</b> that previews each paragraph's main argument.</p>
<p>During the Progressive Era, the government was able to control corporations and businesses that had been out of control during the Gilded Age. Teddy Roosevelt, the president, said that corporations needed to be controlled and supervised by the government (Doc 2). As the president, Roosevelt might have been trying to gain more power for himself and was using the idea of the government protecting people as an excuse to get more power. The government did gain power over big business during the Progressive Era, as shown by the Clayton Antitrust Act, a strong act to regulate business that replaced the much weaker Sherman Antitrust Act. But this didn't mean that government and business were enemies during the Progressive Era. Sometimes, business leaders became involved in government to make it more efficient. James Couzens, who had been a manager of the Ford Motor Company, reformed the Detroit Police Department to make it more efficient (Doc 6). Henry Ford had improved the assembly line to make the production of cars more efficient, so a Ford Motor Company manager was a good choice to promote efficiency in a police department.</p>	<p>A <b>TOPIC SENTENCE</b> makes it clear that this paragraph will address Progressives' attempts to regulate big business.</p> <p><b>DOC 2</b> is accurately described and used as evidence to support the claim in the topic sentence.</p> <p>The analysis of TR's motives provides <b>POINT OF VIEW</b> analysis and an explanation of a possible <b>PURPOSE</b> for <b>DOC 2</b>.</p> <p>The Clayton Antitrust Act provides <b>OUTSIDE EVIDENCE</b> that supports the claim in the topic sentence.</p> <p><b>DOC 6</b> is accurately described and used as evidence to support the claim in the topic sentence.</p> <p>The connection between Ford's assembly line and efficiency at the Detroit Police Department gives useful <b>HISTORICAL CONTEXT</b> for <b>DOC 6</b>.</p>
<p>Progressives also reformed government to make it more honest and democratic. Jane Addams, a progressive reformer, wrote about how political machines dominated politics in the 1890s and how corrupt state and local governments were (Doc 1). By 1911, California had elected a governor who wanted to make the government more democratic with reforms like initiative, referendum, and recall (Doc 4). As governor, Johnson might have liked these reforms because they could be used by a popular governor to get around the legislature because he could appeal directly to the people for the laws he wanted.</p>	<p>A <b>TOPIC SENTENCE</b> makes it clear that this paragraph will focus on democratic reforms.</p> <p><b>DOC 1</b> is accurately described and used as evidence to support the claim in the topic sentence.</p> <p><b>DOC 4</b> is accurately described and used as evidence to support the claim in the topic sentence.</p> <p>The analysis of Johnson's motives provides <b>POINT OF VIEW</b> analysis and an explanation of a possible <b>PURPOSE</b> for <b>DOC 4</b>.</p>
<p>Progressives were very successful in achieving political reforms during the Progressive Era, as evidenced by government regulation of business and reforms to make the government more democratic.</p>	<p><b>THESIS RE-STATED</b> without looking back at the original thesis</p>

**SCORING SUMMARY      SAMPLE RESPONSE D (4/7)**

<b>Contextualization</b>	<b>0</b>	<i>Contextualization was not attempted.</i>
<b>Thesis</b>	<b>1</b>	<i>The thesis included a valid and defensible line of reasoning with a clear preview of points.</i>
<b>Accurately Described (3+)</b>	<b>1</b>	<i>Four documents are accurately described.</i>
<b>Supporting Evidence (6+)</b>	<b>0</b>	<i>The writer only used four documents.</i>
<b>POV+ (3+)</b>	<b>1</b>	<i>Three documents are analyzed for POV, Historical Context, and Purpose.</i>
<b>Outside Evidence</b>	<b>1</b>	<i>Clayton Antitrust Act</i>
<b>Complex Understanding</b>	<b>0</b>	<i>This essay does not qualify for the complexity point.</i>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4</b>	

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## SAMPLE RESPONSE E (3/7)

**NOTE:** This is NOT an essay that I would encourage students to write, but an essay in this format still warrants mention because 1) the average score on the 2019 APUSH DBQ was a 2.5, which this essay exceeds, and 2) it may be about as much as some students with weak writing skills will be able to do.

<p>The Progressive movement was very successful in fostering political change in the United States between 1890 and 1920 because they were able to regulate business and increase the power of the government.</p>	<p>A <b>THESIS</b> is present that makes a <b>historically defensible</b> claim supported by a <b>line of reasoning</b> that previews an argument (which does not materialize in the body paragraphs but that is not relevant here).</p>
<p>President Teddy Roosevelt said in a speech that the government needed to regulate trusts and big business in order to help the people (Doc 2). During the Progressive Era, California elected a governor, Hiram Johnson, who wanted to use reforms like initiative, referendum, and recall (Doc 4). Voters were tired of politicians and wanted leaders who would help them. The government even outlawed the entire alcohol business in response to posters by the Anti-Saloon League that portrayed beer brewers as evil and said the only way to protect women and children was to vote "dry" (Doc 7).</p>	<p><b>DOC 2</b> is accurately described.</p> <p><b>DOC 4</b> is accurately described.</p> <p><b>DOC 7</b> is accurately described.</p>
<p>One reform that increased the power of the federal government was the Sixteenth Amendment, which created the income tax. This allowed the federal government to tax rich people's incomes instead of relying on tariffs, which hurt poor people.</p>	<p>The Sixteenth Amendment provides <b>OUTSIDE EVIDENCE</b> relevant to an argument about the prompt.</p>
<p>Progressive reformers were very successful in bringing about political change in the United States because they were able to increase the power of the government and regulate big business.</p>	<p><b>THESIS RE-STATED</b> without looking back at the original thesis</p>

## SCORING SUMMARY SAMPLE RESPONSE E (3/7)

<b>Contextualization</b>	<b>0</b>	Contextualization was not attempted.
<b>Thesis</b>	<b>1</b>	The thesis included a valid and defensible line of reasoning with a clear preview of points.
<b>Accurately Described (3+)</b>	<b>1</b>	Three documents are accurately described.
<b>Supporting Evidence (6+)</b>	<b>0</b>	The writer only used three documents and there is no clear argumentative structure in the essay.
<b>POV+ (3+)</b>	<b>0</b>	There is no attempt to analyze documents for POV+.
<b>Outside Evidence</b>	<b>1</b>	Sixteenth Amendment
<b>Complex Understanding</b>	<b>0</b>	This essay does not qualify for the complexity point.
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>0</b>	

This sample essay was written in order to provide teachers and students with possible approaches to completing the AP US History DBQ. Please don't hesitate to [contact me](#) with questions or any feedback you might have.