IB European History

Mrs. Barnes

Paper 1—DBQ Skills

The topic for our chosen route for Paper 1 is “Move to Global War.” There are two prescribed subjects to master in preparation for the paper.  At LHS we will study the prescribed subject of “German and Italian Expansion 1933-1939” during the junior year and then “Japanese Expansion in East Asia 1931-1941” in the senior year.

On exam day, all questions from all possible topics will be presented. You must look for questions 9-12 and only answer questions 9-12! The DBQ is organized around four (4) documents and four (4) questions. Three will be “print” sources and one be a “non-print” source like a photograph or political cartoon. IB uses high quality sources – no tricks or bad documents.  There will be a mix of primary and secondary sources. The DBQ takes sixty (60) minutes. You will have 5 minutes at the beginning to simply read through the sources. Paper One counts for 20% of your overall grade in HL History for IB.

Paper 1 in the IB History Exam is a DBQ.  In Paper 1 you will:

9 a and b         **Interpret and analyze** information from a variety of sources

10           **Evaluate** sources for their value and limitations

11      **Compare and contrast** information between sources

12          **Synthesize** evidence from the sources with your own detailed knowledge of the topic

\*In ALL questions, **prove** everything you write with **specific examples from the source**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Question** | **Time** | **Marks** |
| **9 A and B** | **5 minutes** | **5** |
| **10** | **10 minutes** | **4** |
| **11** | **15 minutes** | **6** |
| **12** | **30 minutes** | **9** |

---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

**Question 9**

Question 9 takes five (5) minutes to answer.  If you spend more than five minutes on question 9, you won’t have enough time for the remaining three questions.  Question 9 is a reading comprehension question.  Outside information is not necessary, though an understanding of the historical era will help put the questions into a historical context. Question 9 requires you to carefully examine two of the four documents.

Part (a) of Question 9 usually reads like this: *“Why according to Document…?”*and will be in reference to one of the print sources. You should list two or three reasons that answer the question, *“why.”*  The key to this question is efficient writing.  Because Part (a) is worth 3 marks, you must have 3 distinct answers (3 reasons, 3 meanings, etc.). You should answer this question in three short sentences. You should always reference the source in your response. This can be done simply by stating, “In Source A…” or even, “In A…” You can break up your points of evidence by stating, “Firstly…,” “Secondly…,” “Thirdly…”

Part (b) of Question 9 is usually a message question like, *“What is the message portrayed in Document…?”*  Usually this question requires the interpretation of an image or visual source.  Part (b) will require some understanding of the historical era.  Because Part (b) is worth 2 marks, you must have 2 distinct answers. You should try to make two clear points for this question. You can do this by addressing the overall message or point made in the source, then refer to the content of the source to elaborate and further explain its message.  It is a good idea to use some qualifiers in your writing to indicate that you are speculating on the message; “might mean” or “a possible message is.”

Notes for Understanding: