

ANALYZING POINT OF VIEW/BIAS IN THE AP World History DBQ

WHAT IS MEANT BY ANALYZING POINT OF VIEW/BIAS IN HISTORICAL SOURCES?

Simply put, your task is to act as an historian sifting through sources. Part of this job involves you reviewing the source of the document and understanding why the sources said or wrote what is in the document. In other words, you are analyzing what it is about the source that made them say or write what is in the document. In the end, you are measuring the credibility, legitimacy, reliability and pertinence of the source.

WHY YOU NEED TO KNOW IT: It is part of the rubric for scoring the AP World History DBQ. It is worth 1 point out of the 6 basic core points one can earn. Also, without it, one is not qualified to receive the bonus points.

HOW MANY SOURCES MUST YOU USE IN YOUR DBQ ESSAY THAT SHOW AN ANALYSIS OF POINT OF VIEW/BIAS?
You must analyze point of view/bias in at least 7 documents.

WHERE TO FIND POINT OF VIEW/BIAS IN THE DOCUMENTS:
One will find point of view/bias in the documents by looking at the source of the document. Look for sources that, by their nature, may be of interest (i.e.: what it is about that person -)
Remember, what is in the document (look for exaggeration) will verify whether the source's point of view is of interest.

PRESENTING POINT OF VIEW/BIAS IN YOUR ESSAY:
After citing the document using parenthetical citation, give in the next few sentences your analysis of point of view/bias.

EXAMPLES-OF SOURCES THAT MAY BE USED FOR ANALYSIS OF POINT OF VIEW/BIAS:

- Religious figures
- Extreme individuals
- The illiterate
- People with an agenda
- The poor
- The rich

PHRASES/SENTENCES TO USE WHEN PRESENTING:

- One should approach this document with caution because the source_
- The point of view expressed in this document is of interest because_
- The source of this document possesses a unique point of view because_
- One should take into account the point of view of the source because_

ANALYSIS OF POINT OF VIEW PRACTICE

DOCUMENT 1 (TOPIC - THE CRUSADES)

Our brethren who live in the Middle East are in urgent need of your help. For, as most of you have heard, the Turks and the Arabs have attacked them and have conquered the territory of the Byzantine Empire. They have occupied more and more of the lands of the Christians. They have killed and captured many, and have destroyed the churches and devastated the Empire.

- Pope Urban II issues a crusade (1095)

ANALYZE POINT OF VIEW:

DOCUMENT 2 (TOPIC - EMPEROR JUSTINIAN)

Justinian created countless cities that did not exist before. And finding that the belief in God was straying into errors, he brought it about that it stood on the firm foundation of a single faith. Moreover, finding the laws obscure because they had become far more numerous than they should be, and in obvious confusion because they disagreed with each other. He preserved them in a Legal Code (Justinian Code).

- Procopius: Byzantine Emperor Justinian's official court historian

ANALYZE POINT OF VIEW:

DOCUMENT 3 (TOPIC - THE RELIGION OF ISLAM)

Islam never interfered with the dogmas of any moral faith never persecuted. Islam grasped the sword in self defense. Christianity grasped it in order to stifle freedom of thought and liberty of belief. Wherever Christianity prevailed, no other religion could be followed without molestation. The Moslems, on the other hand, required from others a simple guarantee of peace, tribute in return for practice, of perfect equality - on condition of the acceptance of Islam.

- The Spirit of Islam by Syed Ameer Ali (A Muslim writer)

ANALYZE POINT OF VIEW:

DOCUMENT 5 (TOPIC - INDUSTRIAL GROWTH IN THE SOVIET UNION)

The fulfillment of the first and second - five year plans strengthened the Soviet Union's economic position and turned it into a powerful industrial state. In 1937 the industrial output of the USSR was 5.8 times larger than it was in 1913. The rate of industrial growth in the USSR considerably exceeded that of the capitalist countries. By 1937 the Soviet Union was the first country in Europe and the second in the world in the volume of industrial production. - Socialist industrialization was accompanied by the rapid growth of the working class, and made it possible to liquidate unemployment.

- The Land of the Soviets published in the USSR by the Politburo

ANALYZE POINT OF VIEW:

DOCUMENT 6 (TOPIC - BRITISH IMPERIALISM)

British brains, British enterprise, and British capital have changed the face of India. Means of communication have been developed. There are great numbers of bridges, more than 10,000 miles of railway, and 70,000 miles of paved roads. These testify to the skill and industry of British engineers. Irrigation works on a very large scale have brought 30 million acres under cultivation. This has greatly added to the agricultural wealth of the country. Industrialization has also begun. India now has improved sanitation and a higher standard of living.

- The English in India by British historian J.A.R. Marriott

ANALYZE POINT OF VIEW: