

DBQ Writing Tips

Introduction: Use information from your background essay (and Doc. A if you choose) to “set the stage” for your essay and HOOK your reader.

- Explain **WHY** the prompt is worth discussing. How did the Great Depression make Americans feel following the Roaring 1920s? How did it impact their lives?
- Last sentence = Thesis (roadmap for the rest of your paper)
- Optional Thesis: The Great Depression was caused by unequal distribution of wealth, risky financial decisions, and overproduction and underconsumption of goods during the 1920s.

Body Paragraphs:

- The first sentence of each body paragraph should explain the topic of the paragraph (bucket). This is called a topic sentence.
- Make sure you use at least 10 documents to PROVE your thesis.
- Every “bucket”/ paragraph should involve the analysis of more than one document.
- Cite documents one of these ways:
 - Doc. A demonstrates. . .
 - The Great Depression was the lowest trough of in the history of the United States Business cycle (Doc. A). This reflects. . .

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Conclusion:

- Don't forget to write one!
- "Wrap up" your arguments
- Restate your topic sentences and thesis in ***different words***.