***DBQ Essay Outline***

(note, everything written in *italics* are things you should not write. Anything not in italics should be written in)

***Introduction Paragraph:***

*Introduction sentence that sets the scene or states a relevant maxim*: .

*Provide multiple sentences (4-5) of context to set the scene for the DBQ prompt historically (like background information overall)* . . . . .

*Transition to your argument (1-2 sentences)* .

*Lay out your thesis by very briefly giving a counter argument (X), 3 specific arguments (sub-topics [logical segments or divisions of overall thesis]) (A, B, C), then (Y) which is your overall claim.*

*(X)* . However, *(A)* , *(B)* , *(C)* . Therefore, *(Y)* .

*(Note: The introduction paragraph should NOT have any specific examples from the DBQ and there should not be examples in the thesis statement)*

***Body Paragraphs 1, 2, and 3***

*Begin with a topic sentence that re-introduces (A, B, or C) from your thesis. .*

*Support that topic sentence with OUTSIDE INFORMATION from your brainstorm/planning list . Support your outside information with a reference to a document from the DBQ. Make sure to use and cite the document properly. Do this by using either historical context, author’s point of view, author’s intended audience, or author’s purpose. Cite by writing in the analysis to support your thesis*. . (Doc ). *Explain how this relates back to thesis* . . *Support your outside information with a reference to a document from the DBQ. Make sure to use and cite the document properly. Do this by using either historical context, author’s point of view, author’s intended audience, or author’s purpose. Cite by writing in the analysis to support your thesis*  (Doc ). . *Explain how this relates back to thesis* . . *Write a concluding sentence which relates the paragraph’s topic back to the thesis*  . *Write a transitional sentence introducing the next topic* .

***Conclusion Synthesis Paragraph***

*Begin conclusion with “*It is interesting to note the similarity of” *<essay prompt time period> “*to that of” *<a different historical time period in U.S. History>. Explain the connection by providing and describing 1-2 specific pieces of evidence form the other time period/event that proves the connection. . . .*

*Rephrase thesis in another way without repeating the prompt . .*

There you have it. Add it all up all the lines and you should have a good essay.