**How to DBQ!**

Think back to that DBQ poster project that we did in the fall about the spread of Islam. You had documents that you had to group together based on a common theme. That’s what you’re doing here too, except now those groupings are your paragraphs!

**Step 1: Analyze each document**

* After each document, formulate a concise statement of how you would use that document as evidence in writing this DBQ.
  + Don’t directly quote the document – **paraphrase** it in your own words.
  + This should be one to two sentences.
    - In one sentence, explain what the document is.
    - In your second sentence, explain how that document answers the prompt – how that document shows how Islam spread
* As you are working your way though the documents, keep note of PIECES themes. At the end, you will need to group the documents into **at least two PIECES** themes of your choosing.

Note: if you want to be more specific in some of your PIECES themes (example – talk about ‘military’ instead of just ‘politics,’ you can!)

**Step 2: Grouping/Bucketing**

Group the docs based on a connection you find between them (for example, maybe some of the documents focus on the Protestant Reformation). Sometimes this is called “bucketing.” Use the buckets below to create your various groups, and then put the docs that support each theme within the bucket. You should use a minimum of two buckets.

*If you want a counterargument in your thesis statement:*

*Out of those groups/buckets, pick the one that you think best answers the question, aka the one that you think is the most important effect of the printing press. Put a star next to it. Circle the bucket that you think is the second most important effect.*

**Step 3: Introduction and thesis**

* Create a two-three sentence historical context introduction.
  + What is going on in the world at the time? Think of this as a “previously on…” before a new episode. Zoom out and give me some context.
* Then, write an analytical thesis statement that directly answers the prompt.
  + Directly restate the prompt. “The printing press was a \_\_\_\_\_\_ turning point in world history, because…”
    - Be more specific than “because of political, economic, and social reasons.”
  + For one extra point, use a counterargument in your thesis.
    - This can be the theme that had smaller effect than others.
    - “Although the printing press led to limited development in \_\_\_\_\_, the printing press was a major turning point in world history, because \_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_.”
  + Want a formula?  
      
    *Although X*, **Y**, because A and B.  
      
    Where *X* is your counterargument, **Y** is your actual argument, and A and B are reasons that support your actual argument.

**Step 4: write your body paragraphs!**

* You know how to do this! Make sure that you have topic sentences that address your theme. Practice using claim, evidence, reasoning in chunks in your body paragraphs.
  + Your evidence should come from the documents. You need to include at least six of the eight documents in your paper.
  + Each paragraph should have a concluding sentence that links your evidence back to your thesis. You need that continued argument in your paper – you need to continually PROVE to me that the printing press was/was not a turning point.
* *Citing sources*
  + You must cite a document each time you use it. You can do that in two ways:
    - In document A, …. OR … (doc A).
  + FOR EXAMPLE:
    - The printing press was a major turning point in the field of education across Europe. Because the printing press made it easier to mass produce books, the amount of printed books in England increased drastically from the late 1400s to the mid-1600s (document A). Not only that, but as printing became more common across Europe, it led to a decrease in the price of books, which afforded middle- and lower-class people the opportunity to buy and read books. This led to an increase in literacy across Europe regardless of social standing, and therefore increased education. Because the printing press revolutionized the ease of access of books due to massive production and lowered prices, it was a major educational turning point in Europe.