

DBQ #2 - Evaluate the extent to which reform movements in the United States led to an expansion of democratic ideals from 1825 to 1855.

Paragraph #1 - Introduction

Two key parts, contextualization and thesis

Contextualization

- What led to these reform movements?
- What major changes took place in the U.S. leading up to the 1820s that are relevant to the question?
- What historical information helps set up your thesis?
- 2-4 sentences

Thesis

- Works the best at the end of your introduction.
- Make sure it clearly addresses the question (the extent to which reform movements led to an expansion of democratic ideals)
- Write two sentences if needed.

Paragraphs #2/3 - Body #1 & 2

- Figure out a way to group the reform movements together that serves your analysis.
- **Start the paragraph with a topic sentence that clearly addresses the question and is the main idea of the paragraph.**
- Look at the points you've made in your thesis and go into more depth as you set a roadmap for your analysis.
- Remember, the documents are to be used as supporting evidence for your analysis. **DO NOT SUMMARIZE THE DOCUMENTS.** That's pretty much an instant L for all of your document points.
- For four documents, *after* you've used them to support your analysis, take your analysis one more step by addressing POV, historical situation, audience or purpose.
- Make sure you stay connected to the question, a key thing that helps with this is to clearly connect back to the question and the end of your paragraph.

Paragraph #4 - Conclusion

- Restate your thesis
- Further develop your contextualization. Analyze the broader historical events that “continue after the timeframe of the question.”
- Make a specific connection. Did these reform movements continue after 1855? How so? How did they continue to influence the course of U.S. History?
- Do NOT make a vague connection to “today.”