

One of the best ways to learn about the past is through primary sources. This analytical project will require you looking through many Civil War sources, deciding what really stands out to you, and thinking!!

STEPS TO CREATING AN AWESOME, THOUGHTFUL, ORIGINAL DBQ:

1. Familiarize yourself with the basics of the Civil War by flipping through chapter 11 in your textbook (pgs 338-371) or checking out the links on our class website.
2. Go through as many primary sources as you can! Use the links provided.
3. Decide what Civil War topic really interests you, and form a focus or topic question around it (the main question of a DBQ essay). More analytical questions will ask WHY, HOW, or TO WHAT EXTENT. (No WHO, WHEN or WHERE questions!!)
4. Write a paragraph of HISTORICAL CONTEXT (background info) about your topic/question.
3. Find a MINIMUM of SIX (6) primary sources that are related to your topic, and more importantly, would help to answer your focus question. Source suggestions include letters, speeches, newspaper articles, diary entries, political cartoons, artifacts, photographs, etc. Up to half of your sources may be images.
4. Write a MINIMUM of one sentence of background information to introduce each source (include date, speaker/author, name of publication, location, etc).
5. Compose a question for each source. These questions should also be geared toward helping to answer your focus/topic question. You must create TWO (2) questions for at least ONE of your sources.
6. Try to have fun with this! ☺

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