

Global History and Geography

Regents' Exam Strategies

You're allowed to take the test in any order you want.

However, here are my recommendations!

Step 1: Peek at the Essays

- Before you start, turn the pages of the booklet to find the essays. What is the DBQ Essay about? What is the Thematic Essay about?
- **Why?**
 - Knowing what you're dealing with may make you feel more relaxed.
 - Certain multiple choice questions may “spark something” that helps you choose a Thematic topic or reminds you of outside info for the DBQ!

Step 2: Multiple Choice

- Next, do the 50 multiple choice. Keep an eye on the clock. If an hour passes and you haven't finished, you probably need to hurry up to get to the essays, unless you get extra time.
- Why?
 - Doing the multiple choice questions first may “spark something” that helps with your Thematic Essay or reminds you of outside info for the DBQ!
 - Keep an eye on the clock because you need time to do the document questions & write 2 essays.

Step 3: Document Questions

- Next, answer the questions that go with the documents. Remember, this is also a great time to think about possible outside info for the DBQ Essay.
- **Why?**
 - Do the DBQ Essay before the Thematic because getting through the documents takes a considerable amount of time.
 - Brainstorm outside info NOW so that you've got it ready to go when it's time to write the essay.

Step 4: DBQ Essay

- Next, write the DBQ Essay. Remember to use document citations (document #s) and include outside info (*accurate, specific, relevant info that is NOT in the documents*).
- **Why?**
 - Do the DBQ Essay before the Thematic because getting through the documents takes a considerable amount of time.
 - Add outside info even if you're not sure about it. It could be the difference between a "2" and a "3".

Step 5: Thematic Essay

- Next, write the Thematic Essay.

Remember to pay special attention to the task points. Make sure that you are addressing each task point in your essay.

- **Why?**

- Some students lose points by veering off the task. It's not a free response essay about a certain topic. You have to answer the specific questions that have been asked!

Step 6: Look Over Your Test

1. Look over your Scantron. If you have time, make sure you have bubbled the right answer and thoroughly erased any mistakes.

Do not leave any questions blank!

2. Look over the document-based questions. Make sure you have answered every question.

Do not leave any questions blank!

3. Look over your essays. Make sure you have attempted outside info on the DBQ. Make sure you have written both of the essays.

Do not leave without writing both essays!