

APUSH

DBQ PERFORMANCE VERBS EXPLAINED

- Analyze – to break down a problem or situation into component parts or relationships; to consider different parts of a problem, situation or equation in order to determine nature of the whole; i.e. looking at several two-dimensional perspectives to determine a type of three dimensional object.
- Compare – to examine the similarities and/or differences, such as describing ways in which at least two forms, functions or events are alike; (emphasis on similarities)
- Contrast - to examine the similarities and/or differences, such as describing ways in which at least two forms, functions or events are different; (emphasis on differences)
- Defend – to give reasons for a particular point of view, usually dealing with a controversial topic; to give reasons for supporting one side of an issue.
- Describe – to give a detailed response; to represent a concept, process, or an idea, such as noting changes taking place over time.
- Evaluate – to give a value judgment, to give pluses and minuses, with supporting evidence; to utilize criteria to judge the role or value of something for a given purpose, such as explaining the pros and cons and/or the consequences of a decision or action.
- Infer – to extend information or to understand beyond what is explicitly stated, such as interpreting or extracting data from a graph.
- Support – to provide evidence to back up a conclusion or argument, such as citing people with similar points of view.
- Trace – to present in a step by step sequence a series of related facts; describe path or sequence; i.e. chronology.