



# DBQ Feedback



1918/1919 Influenza Pandemic DBQ

Spring 2020

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\*\*\*Examples of writing in PowerPoint belong to students 😊

# Basic Feedback

- You do not receive credit for using information from the background information. It is there to get your memory working with the historic event.
- Please do NOT have an entire paragraph with one document. This does not show analysis and grouping and is a waste of time. If you don't have time, just analyze another document that relates (you do not have to include Sourcing/Outside Evidence for EVERY document)
- Stop using PERSONAL PRONOUNS (me, we, you...)
- Indent your paragraphs – This helps your reader tremendously. It also shows that you know the document rubric and essay structure.
- Stay on topic – This question asked about the responses to the pandemic. Do not include YOUR opinion on the validity or effectiveness of the responses. Stay on task, you only have 45 minutes! No time for extra writing that is not on the rubric.

# Some Great Contextualization Examples

“The Influenza outbreak of 1918-1919 came with devastating effects, killing many. It had spread through many various forms, including through the soldiers of WWI, who were transported all over different countries, spreading the disease with them. The disease also spread through new transportation methods, such as the steamship, which could hold many people on board, and would travel around to different parts of the world.”

- The response is specific enough that the reader can see the student’s historic knowledge (e.g. steamships) while also relating the historic event to the thesis statement.

Throughout the 1800’s and early 1900’s Europe and many other countries went through a process described as industrialization. During this time period the country’s population increased due to significant developments in agriculture, and other technology. The new technology created during the industrial revolution such as steamships and railroads allowed for increased transportation not only within the country but between other countries. This moved more people and products faster which increased the profit of the country but with the spread of culture and goods also came the spread of disease.

- This is my favorite. Perfect!

# Some Great Thesis Statements

Most students did a GREAT job with thesis statements!

People around the world responded to influenza in the twentieth century by attempting to isolate to prevent the spread of the disease (1), actively seek to assist people and help people that were infected with the deadly disease (2), and use their strong belief in God to cure them (3).

The Influenza epidemic was taken very seriously by the people of the world, as evident in these responses. Governments encouraged volunteer work to help support the people infected (1), while doctors and medical staff worked around the clock to assist patients (2). Social isolation was put in place and the world, overall, was placed on lock-down (3).

Many of the common people did what they could by way of volunteering and donations while the government took precautions in closing down public spaces, but many efforts were greatly hindered by religious affiliations and adherence.

# Some Examples of Sourcing

- People who were not medical personnel were able to help because people with Influenza needed a lot of attention outside of doctors giving them medications and attempting to fix the problem. Influenza patients needed food, water, shelter, and so others were willing to help to supply those things for the people in need. The point of view in document one shows a reader that the author is not trained in medicine and is simply someone eager to help because she says "even me" implying that she knows that nothing about medicine and even she is capable of helping during this harsh time
- The Hindu believed the pandemic to be a visitation from the Goddess Amman and believed that no treatment by any drug was necessary or should be attempted (Document 2). The source of the document, however, is from Madras, a British controlled area of India which signifies the author is likely not Hindu at all and therefore did not know for sure if the Hindu people were open to taking treatment or not - great job sourcing here! . The document could be a way of showing that the Hindu people are not civilized as the British and need immediate intervention before they further cause the spread of the disease or in other words, justify their rule in India
- This was to ensure that they did not catch the flu and in result would lead to them not passing it on to family members or anyone that they would normally come in contact with. The women sharing their stories in document 4 were children at the time of the global pandemic. This affects their views and responses because they listened to their parents about how they had to react to the situation. Instead of acting how they may have with their own opinions, they did as their family was doing by social distancing, cleaning, and bringing food to the vulnerable from a distance

# A really great essay...

- Thesis: Many of the common people did what they could by way of volunteering and donations while the government took precautions in closing down public spaces, but many efforts were greatly hindered by religious affiliations and adherence.
- Body paragraph #1: Many Americans, as well as people in other countries, came together with their government to assist with the dangerous outbreak. The first document speaks of a native American woman who is volunteering as a temporary nurse in order to help her fellow Americans. She remarks that even she is accepted as a volunteer despite her heritage which at the time was frowned upon by many because of racial intolerances. Document four speaks to her family donating food to those in need as well as staying away from new people and crowds. The government attempted to keep its people safe by closing public facilities such as schools and parks. As quick and effective as this response of theirs should have been, it did not calm the spread of the disease nearly as much as they had hoped because some people were careless enough not to take precautions during this time.
- Body Paragraph #2: Some of those who failed to take precautions were those whom religion grasped their hearts. While it's true that society at this point tried to remain secular (OE Point) , in times of fear people often turn to a higher power such as God and the church. The second document in the series presented is a report by a sanitation commissioner stationed in British India. The fact that it is a report means it is most likely ~~strictly fact-based and incorporates little to no bias~~. In fact, they believed that nothing should be done at all because the epidemic was their Goddess Amman taking physical form in the world. With no preparation or response to influenza, many lost their lives. Luckily, India was not nearly as populated as it is in today's time, so the effects were lessened greatly. Document three complains about churches being closed and claims that either God's might is strong enough to vanquish the epidemic or it is God's will incarnate and no attempt should be made to stop its spread. Germ theory had only come into existence nearly thirty years prior and thus was still denied by many religious followers making them wary of medicines - OE - And in a time where the common person is scared for their family and for their loved ones at war, a clergyman's word is a very powerful weapon against the masses Great sourcing!

# Another great example...

- **Contextualization and Thesis:** During the years of the first world war, which spanned from 1914-1918, many countries were exposed to other countries for the first time in many years since it involved countries around the entire world. Furthermore, many of the major countries participating in the war had colonies overseas, bringing them into contact too. This exposure to other countries brought them into contact with things like diseases, one being the major influenza outbreak that occurred directly after World War I. This outbreak occurred during the years of 1918-1919, immediately after World War I. Without modern medicine and technology that we have today, many countries resorted to other things. Some of the responses that the countries and the people had to the influenza was that the people resorted to religion by saying that the gods sent the disease down on the Earth, and there was no reason for medicine. Another response was to quarantine the infected individuals while also closing down many places where the infection could spread.
- **First Body Paragraph:** One response to the influenza epidemic was the people resorting to religion as the explanation. For example, in British India, a Sanitary Commissioner reported that people were not actively seeking medical attention and treatment, and instead labored under the impression that the Hindu Goddess Amman visited the earth and created the pandemic, and that drugs could not remedy the situation (Doc 2). Before the war even started, the British promised self-rule (OE) to the Indians if they helped out with the war effort. The Indians had no reason not to accept, so they agreed. However, the British did not honor their promise, and did not grant self-rule to the Indians. Because of this, the Hindu people believed (distrust with the British) that their Goddess Amman had come down to Earth as a consequence of Britain's actions, and that Amman caused a major disease outbreak. Another example of religion taking control of the people was an editorial in Boston. This editorial stated that people believed that God sent pestilence to the world for the good of the world, and that the people should not try and protect themselves from the Lord's anger (Doc 3). The editorial was called "The Christian Science Monitor," meaning that the editorial might have been written from someone who was Christian at the time. This could have influenced their view on the disease and what their response would be. In this case, it influenced them to accept that God was angry and that they should not protect themselves against it.
- **Second Body Paragraph:** Another response by governments and the people was to close infectious places and quarantine the infected where they were treated by volunteers. One example of this was seen by a Native American worker in America. She stated that she worked very hard in one of the hospitals in Washington D.C., giving the patients many remedies, feeding them, and a large number of other things that not even the Native American girl could remember. Furthermore, she stated how the schools, churches, and theater halls were closed down, with another bill closing more things down on the way (Doc 1). This shows the response of the government to centralize the sick so that they were not out and infecting more people. It also shows how they closed down many of what is now called "non-essential businesses" in order to slow the rate of infection. Furthermore, during this time, Native Americans did not have full citizenship (OE). Because of this many Native Americans, including this woman, volunteered for duty during the war and after that war in order to try and convince the government that they were worth full citizenship - context - great sourcing point here. Another example of the prevention of the infection was in New Zealand, in British Samoa, near American Samoa. British Samoa willingly allowed a boat raving with the infection in, killing thousands of people within weeks. American Samoa, on the other hand, isolated for several days and did not have contact with the infectious boat. They did not have anywhere near as harmful effects as did British Samoa (Doc 5). This is a prime example of how isolation can work in favor of someone during a circumstance like this. According the document, the American Samoa isolation was only for five days. Even such a small amount of time can have such as big difference, and it was a very smart response from American Samoa to the influenza.
- **Complexity:** Now, in 2020, the people of the world of world are facing a similar pandemic: COVID-19. Although there are some continuities from then until now, there are some differences in the responses of the world today. Isolation and the quarantine of the infected are similar responses that the world practices today, very similar to the 1918-1919 outbreak of influenza. However, there are still some differences. These include religion. The world has sophisticated and improved technology so much since the first world war. This has shifted the focus from religion onto science and technology, rather than people falling back on religion as the main cause of the outbreak. This continues the shift from religious thought to science thought, first seen during the Scientific Revolution, where people like Galileo made breakthroughs in science, particularly astronomy and physics, clashing with the ideals of the church.

# SPRING STUDENTS!

- Thank you for reading through this presentation. Because of your efforts (completing a DBQ and reading feedback), I am allowing you to go back to the Google document I shared with you and make corrections.
- To make corrections and receive ½ credit back, you **MUST** complete ALL of the following by Thursday at 9 p.m.
  - Open the Google Doc I shared with you → type a new response on the second page of the Google Doc (if you used 2 pages, write your new response on the third page).
  - Label the top of the page: DBQ CORRECTIONS
  - You **MUST** retype the entire essay, not just correct certain parts.
  - You **MUST** email me when the corrections are complete and I will edit your grade.