

## **Honors History Placement Exam Study Materials**

### **Topic:**

This year's placement exam will focus on **ancient Greece's contribution to Western civilization in the areas of art, architecture, philosophy, math, drama, and science.**

### **Format of Test:**

The Honors World History Placement Exam is a **two-hour** exam that has two parts.

**Part A:** Consists of eight documents based on Greek History. You will read each one and then answer the question or questions that follow. At De La Salle, these types of questions are known as Document Based Questions (DBQ's). They help students become a skillful historian and a competent writer. These types of questions are a significant part of the AP Exams a student may take in the future.

### **How to answer document-based questions:**

1. Read the question carefully. What is the question asking you to do? Underline key words, eras, names, issues, or categories in the question.
2. Write down the facts-names, dates, events-that you know about the topic and time period not in the document. This may help you later.
3. Read and analyze the documents. Write notes that may help you answer the questions.
4. Reread the question - see if you missed anything.
5. Plan/organize your response by creating an outline.
6. Identify the main subjects to be discussed in your body paragraphs.
7. Select the documents you want to use in answering the essay in Part B.
8. Please identify the documents you use in your answer.

**Part B:** You will then use the documents from Part A to write a four-five paragraph essay answering a given prompt about the topic.

**Please note: The examples are simply for reference. They are not to be used for this year's exam.**

Your essay should include the following:

1. **Introductory Paragraph:** Develop your thesis statement. **Your thesis should make a claim, be clear and concise, and include specific categories.** Your thesis should be between one to three sentences long and should be placed at the end of your introductory paragraph.

Ex. “The fall of Rome was due to invasions by Barbarian tribes, economic troubles, overexpansion and military overspending.”

2. **Body Paragraphs:** Use a separate paragraph for each topic, issue, or argument. **Include specific examples to support generalizations or to make distinctions. Cite specific evidence from the documents, but be sure to avoid long quotations and just rewriting the entire document.** Integrate information from the documents while writing your answer. Please identify the documents you use in your answer.

Ex. “Several Barbarian tribes began to attack Roman cities throughout Europe (Document 1).”

3. **Concluding paragraph:** Restate your position and main ideas that you presented in your essay.  
Ex. “The once mighty Roman empire began to crumble as Barbarian tribes invaded Roman lands, as economic troubles mounted, and the military over expanded and overspent.”

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The following people and topics will appear on the World History Honors Placement Exam. Please review these individuals and topics to be prepared for the exam.

1. Socrates
2. Aristotle
3. Pericles
4. Hippocrates / Hippocratic Oath
5. Euclid / *Elements*
6. Sophocles
7. Parthenon
8. Myron / *Discus Thrower* -Olympics

**Rubric:**

The following rubric will be used by World History teachers in grading the test.

5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Thoroughly develops all aspects of the task evenly and in depth</li> <li>● Is more analytical than descriptive (analyzes, evaluates, and/or creates information)</li> <li>● Incorporates relevant information from at least 5 documents</li> <li>● Richly supports your thesis with many relevant facts, examples, and entails from the document</li> <li>● Demonstrates a logical and clear plan of organization; includes an introduction and a conclusion that go beyond a restatement of the theme.</li> </ul>
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Develops all aspects of the task but may do so somewhat unevenly</li> <li>● Is both descriptive and analytical</li> <li>● Incorporates relevant information from at least 4 documents</li> <li>● Supports your thesis with some relevant facts, examples, and entails from the document</li> <li>● Demonstrates a logical and clear plan of organization; includes an introduction and a conclusion that go beyond a restatement of the theme.</li> </ul>
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Develops all aspects of the task with little depth or develops most aspects</li> <li>● Is both descriptive and analytical</li> <li>● Incorporates relevant information from at least 3 documents</li> <li>● Includes some relevant facts, examples, and details; may include some minor inaccuracies</li> <li>● Demonstrates a satisfactory plan of organization; includes an introduction and a conclusion that may be a restatement of the theme</li> </ul>
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Minimally develops all aspects of the task or develops some aspects of the task in some depth</li> <li>● Is primarily descriptive; may include faulty, weak, or isolated application or analysis</li> <li>● Incorporates limited relevant information from the documents or consists primarily of copied information from the documents</li> <li>● Includes few relevant facts, examples, and details; may include some inaccuracies</li> <li>● Demonstrates a general plan of organization; may lack focus; may contain digressions; may not clearly identify which aspects of the task is being addressed; may lack an introduction and/or a conclusion</li> </ul>
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Minimally develops some aspects of the task</li> <li>● Is descriptive; may lack understanding, application or analysis</li> <li>● Makes vague, unclear references to the documents or consists primarily of irrelevant information copied from the documents.</li> </ul>
0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Fails to develop the task or may only refer to the task in a general way</li> <li>● No relevant facts, examples or details</li> <li>● Work is illegible</li> <li>● No answer given at all</li> </ul>