APUSH Writing Tips

**Short Answer:**
- 4 Questions
- 50 minutes (12 ½ minutes each) but time is up to you
- Will be given 23 lines to answer it...can’t go over
- 20% of total score
- 2 will be text only
- Can be on any of 9 time periods
- Worth 3 points each
- 3 parts to each question
- Separate each part of the answer (3 Paragraphs)
- Use complete sentences but be to the point
- Read the question clearly and KNOW what it wants you to do
- Use a restatement of the question to begin each answer
- Use specific examples/critical nouns in answer. Don’t generalize

**Long Essay:**
- 2 Questions given- You choose the one you want
- Can be on any of 9 time periods
- 35 minutes total to both plan and write
- 15% of total score
- UNDERSTAND THE THINKING SKILL USED IN THE QUESTION
  - Continuity and Change (BOTH)
  - Comparison (SAME AND DIFFERENT)
  - Periodization (Similar or Different from other periods)
  - Cause and Effect (BOTH)
- 6 point rubric
  - 1-Thesis
  - 2-Support for argument (Evidence and establishes the link to the thesis)
  - 2-Application of targeted thinking skill (Describes and establishes the link to the thesis)
  - 1- Synthesis (Walks forward or backward in history and explains)

**DBQ:**
- 1 Choice Only
- Time Periods 2-8
- 10 minutes to plan and 45 minutes to write
- Follow the Process of the 10 minutes planning period- Set up for success
- 7 Point Rubric
  - 1-Thesis
  - 1-Argument Development- (Contradiction, collaboration, qualification)- Shades of gray
  - 1-Contextualization (Big picture of the question)
  - 1-Outside Evidence beyond the Documents/Critical Nouns
  - 1- Synthesis (Walks forward or backward in history and explains)
  - 2- Document Analysis
    - 1- Uses at six of the docs to support the thesis
    - 1- Analyzes at least 4 of docs using HIPPO