Earning the Complexity Point on the LEQ and DBQ

The Complexity Point:

Demonstrates a complex understanding of the historical development that is the focus of the prompt, using evidence to corroborate, qualify, or modify an argument that addresses the question.

The Complexity Point:

A response may demonstrate a complex understanding in a variety of ways, such as:

- Explaining nuance of an issue by analyzing multiple variables
- Explaining both similarity and difference, or explaining both continuity and change, or explaining multiple causes, or explaining both cause and effect

The Complexity Point:

A response may demonstrate a complex understanding in a variety of ways, such as:

- Explaining relevant and insightful connections within and across periods
- Confirming the validity of an argument by corroborating multiple perspectives across themes
- Qualifying or modifying an argument by considering diverse or alternative views or evidence

The Complexity Point:

No one thing will establish that you have 'earned' a complexity point. There is no one sentence or paragraph that earns this point. It must be a "mastery of the topic" that you have demonstrated throughout the entire essay.

The Complexity Point:

Known as the "unicorn point," only approximately 1% - 4% of students earn complexity on the AP exam. For this class, the point can be earned by "impressing me with your knowledge" and is granted at a slightly higher percentage.

As noted on the Exam:

Use evidence to corroborate, qualify, or modify an argument that addresses the prompt.

Complexity Objectives:

TSWBAT corroborate, qualify, or modify an argument HTS-6D using diverse and alternative evidence in order to develop a complex argument.

LEQ-1 point DBQ-1 point Exam Workshop: Contextualization

Corroborate, Qualify, or Modify:

Support your argument by referencing other Corroborate

supporting historical developments or processes

Demonstrate the limitations of the evidence in Qualify

contradiction to your argument

Change the way the development or process is Modify

presented in order to support the argument

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Questions? Comments? Concerns?