

DBQ Paragraph Checklist

1. Evidence (the “what”)

- Did I use specific evidence from the document (quote or paraphrase)?
- Did I explain how the evidence supports my claim, not just restate it?

2. HIPP (the “why”)

- Did I include at least ONE sourcing element (Historical Context, Intended Audience, Purpose, or Point of View)?
- Did I connect that HIPP element to why the document matters for understanding governance?

3. Argument (the “so what”)

- Did I make a clear claim about Song Dynasty governance?
- Did I connect the evidence to the larger AP theme (continuity, innovation, legitimacy, bureaucracy, Confucianism)?
- Did I avoid repeating the same phrase (e.g., just saying “Confucian values”) without deeper explanation?

■ Quick Rating Scale (for self-check or peer-check)

- 3/3 Strong: Evidence, HIPP, and Argument all clearly present.
- 2/3 Developing: One element is weak or missing.
- 1/3 Needs Work: Only one element addressed.